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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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MARRIAGES.

On the 17th November, 1898, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, WALTER FRANZ KAHLER, I.M. Customs, Tientsin, to AGNES HANNAH FONTAINE, eldest daughter of Samuel Henry STUART, master mariner.
On the 22nd November, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, T. CHARLES CRANE, to MABEL, daughter of W. G. HUMPHREYS, Esq., of Hongkong.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 21st October arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 21st November (31 days); and the English mail of the 28th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Corumandel*, on the 25th November (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The importation of Japanese yen into British North Borneo is now prohibited.

The leave of Mr. George Jamieson, Consul-General at Shanghai, has been extended to May next.

H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., the new Governor, accompanied by Lady Blake and Miss Blake, arrived at Hongkong on the 25th November.

An interesting report by Dr. Bedloe, the U.S. Consul at Canton, on Russian competition in China, especially in the kerosine trade, has been published.

The monument to the brave officers and seamen who lost their lives in the wreck of the German gunboat *Illis* on the 23rd July, 1896, was unveiled at Shanghai on the 21st November in the presence of H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, a large force from the German Squadron, representatives from the men-of-war of other nationalities, the Consuls, the Municipal Council, and a large gathering of the general public.

Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., the new Governor of Hongkong, arrived on the 25th November and was duly sworn in.

H.M.S. *Barfleur*, with Admiral Fitzgerald on board, left on 22nd Nov. for the north. Admiral Seymour is expected at Hongkong shortly in the *Centurion*.

A General Chamber of Commerce is being established at Manila. There was formerly a Spanish Chamber, from which foreigners were excluded. In the new Chamber there will be no distinction of nationality.

A Tokyo telegram states that the cable between Formosa and Foochow, over the ownership of which a dispute has long been pending, is to become the property of Japan on payment of 150,000 taels.—*Nagasaki Press*.

It is reported from Peking that Japan has demanded from the Tsungli Yamen through the Japanese Minister, Mr. Yano, settlements both at Newchwang and Amoy exclusively for Japanese residents.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Mr. Fleming, of the China Inland Mission, together with a native evangelist, was murdered at Panghai, Kueichou, on the 4th instant. Kueifu Mission, Szechuan, was also burned down two days after the Viceroy passed.

The German flagship *Kaiser* recently struck a rock near Samsah and sustained such damage that she had to be beached. Assistance was sent to her and she was got off, arriving on the 24th November at Hongkong, where she will repair. She was accompanied by the cruisers *Gefion* and *Cormoran*.

The *Siam Observer* hears that the long pending case in which the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation sued Phra Pakdee Patarakorn for the recovery of 131,541 ticals upon an overdraft, and which after going through the International Court, the Appeal Court, and the Privy Council was decided in favour of the Bank, has now been settled by the defendant to the satisfaction of the Bank.

Mr. James Flood, the senior partner in the firm of Flood & Co. at Kobe, who recently absconded from that port leaving large liabilities behind him, was arrested on his arrival at San Francisco, but was subsequently released. It is believed that criminal proceedings against him will be dropped, owing to the legal difficulties in the way of securing the extradition of a foreigner who may have absconded from Japan.

A Tokyo dispatch states that the Government of the United States recently addressed an inquiry to the Japanese Government for the purpose of ascertaining its views respecting the annexation of the Philippines by America. The Okuma Cabinet—which was then in power—replied that Japan would not protest, and the telegram of thanks recently reported to have been received by the Japanese Government was in acknowledgement of this resolution of the Cabinet.—*Hiogo News*.

Lord Charles Beresford attended the annual dinner of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association on the 19th November and made a speech in which he complained of the loss of British prestige at Peking and said the British sphere of influence in the Yangtze valley was altogether illusory. The only solution of the China problem, he said, was for Britain, America, Germany, and Japan to come to an agreement with regard to the open door. Britain must reorganise the Chinese army.

Telegrams received at Shanghai on the 16th November by the local mandarins from Peking state that the Empress Dowager is determined to reinstate Li Hung-chang in the Tsungli Yamen and that Russia has given consent to the reappointment.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Prince Henry with his fleet, namely, the *Arcona*, *Deutschland*, *Gefion*, and *Prinzess Wilhelm* arrived at Woosung on the 17th November. His Highness arrived in town per tug *Victoria* at 6.45 p.m. The crews were to be brought up in lighters to assist at the unveiling of the *Illis* monument.

H.E. Sheng, Director-General of the Lu-Han Railway, has left Shanghai for Hankow to be present at the turning of the first sod of the proposed line. It is further stated that owing to the granting of the construction of the line to the Belgian Syndicate, a Belgian Consul has also been appointed to Hankow "in order to impress upon the sceptical that the line is a *bona fide* Belgian contract, in which neither Russia nor France have any interest." This statement, the *N. C. Daily News* says, is apparently made for the benefit of Chinese disbelievers.

The manager of the Yokohama agency of Siemens & Halske, has favoured the *Japan Times* with the following news:—"As published by you some months ago in your esteemed paper, we secured a contract with the Chinese Government for the construction of an electric railway in Peking. We have now received telegraphic advice that another contract for a central power station for lighting the city by electricity has been given to us. The ground on which this building is to be erected has already been bought. We bring this fact to your knowledge as we think that it will be of interest to many of your readers, both Japanese and foreign."

The *Nagasaki Press* of the 19th November says:—"We are informed that the P. & O. steamer *Rosetta* ran ashore inside the Red Light whilst entering the harbour on Wednesday evening. The vessel released itself unaided and subsequently arrived at the P. & O. anchorage. The local Dock Company's diver examined the ship yesterday and he reports that the stem is considerably damaged and that there are about 12 feet of water in the fore-peak of the vessel. The *Rosetta* will not be able to repair here owing to the docks being occupied. Collision mats have therefore been placed over the damaged portion, and the vessel will leave for Kobe to-day, where she will probably be docked and repaired."

Mr. W. Silver Hall writes as follows to the *Japan Mail*:—"I have just returned from a trip to Yokosuka, and to the grave of Will Adams. When I last visited the latter, it was in good order, and the iron railing had been repainted by order of the captain of H.M.S. *Edgar*. Now, the gates have been pulled down, the pins of the hinges stolen, and the monuments themselves overthrown and badly damaged. I am quite at a loss to account for this outrage, as I am sure that no foreigner would have perpetrated it, and I have always understood that the Japanese themselves held in high respect, and even veneration, the memory of the man who did so much for their navy, and who practically laid the foundation of what has since developed into their most important arsenal. I feel certain that it is only necessary to call attention to the state of things in order to ensure that it will be promptly rectified."

GENERAL BLACK'S FAREWELL ADDRESS.

(Daily Press, 24th November.)

The tone of the farewell address delivered at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Tuesday by Major-General WILSON BLACK will intensify the public regret felt at His Excellency's approaching departure. There is a total absence of self-laudation or posing for effect in the address, which is a plain, straightforward, and dignified statement of the history of the eventful ten months during which he has conducted the administration. Debatable points are touched upon necessarily, but in such a way as must command the respect even of those who may happen to differ from His Excellency. After referring to the plague, the Spanish-American war, and the arrival of Prince HENRY, the important subject of the extension of the colony and the position of the Chinese Customs is reached. General BLACK says it seems to be only just and necessary that the Customs stations should recede with the new boundary, for it would be an abdication of sovereignty if a foreign power were allowed to exercise control within British waters. In that expression of opinion the whole colony will heartily agree with His Excellency. "At the same time," he goes on to say, "I recognize that it is right that we should aid the friendly Government of China in her task of protecting her revenue, made so difficult by the indented nature of the coast line, and to this end I have suggested that opium should be stored in Government godowns, and only issued on Government permit." This corresponds with the opinion lately expressed by the Chamber of Commerce on the subject and the proposal will probably commend itself to the majority of the community, though there will no doubt be some dissentients. The establishment of a bonded warehouse was mooted at the time the Opium Convention was negotiated, but public opinion was not then ripe for the proposal, which was not pressed. Had it been carried into effect at that time we might possibly have had no Customs questions at all to discuss, as the Chinese might have been willing at that time to have removed the stations altogether. In connection with this subject there is one point on which His Excellency is silent, namely, the question whether, when the new arrangements come into force, the Customs should be allowed to retain in the colony an agency on an unofficial basis, that is, having no legal authority under English law and enjoying no immunities. This is simply a question of convenience. When Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL suppressed the offices established in the colony to collect duty in the old native Customs days the Chinese merchants, Dr. EITEL tells us in his History of Hongkong, "found it to be to their own interest and convenience to obtain passes in town, at the secret taxing offices which continued to flourish on the sly, rather than risk the delay and uncertainty of payments made at the outside stations."

Amongst other subjects touched upon by His Excellency is that of the Post Office, concerning which he says that he has submitted recommendations to the Secretary of State which will, he trusts, produce great improvement in this department, in whose well-being every individual is concerned. The nature of the recommendations made was not disclosed, but we hope they may be found to contain a request for skilled assistance from St. Martins-le-Grand, as has been previously suggested in this column. Another re-

ference that will excite interest is that to the Jubilee Road round the island. A trace has been made with easy gradients, and, His Excellency says, offers in the section between Aberdeen and Deep Water Bay an important sanitary reform, for part of the scheme is to fill up and turf over the festering inlet to which the leading medical men of the colony point as the source of the malaria which has so long marred the health of Aberdeen and the neighbourhood of Magazine Gap. "I have nothing but the good of the community at heart," he continues, "and I emphatically state that if you believe medical testimony, it is your duty to decree that this section be the first taken in hand." The majority of the subscribers to the fund will, we believe, agree with His Excellency that the section he indicates should be first taken in hand, not so much perhaps on sanitary grounds—for sanitary affairs are a matter for the Government and the expenditure in connection therewith should fall on the general revenue—but because that section would be more useful in facilitating locomotion round the island than the Kennedytown section. Some of the more active of the promoters of the Jubilee Road, however, strongly favour the latter, and the question will no doubt be fully debated when the new Governor arrives. Passing on, General BLACK made a brief reference to the financial position, in connection with which he made the remark that taxation is light in the colony, a statement to which exception may be taken. The taxation per head is naturally much lighter than in England if we look only at the actual amount collected, but if regard be had to the character of the population and the lower rate of wages it will be found to press as heavily here as there, if not more so.

In the concluding portion of his address His Excellency said:—"It is beyond my province to do more than allude to the great dramas that have been and are being enacted around us. We live in a history-making epoch and changes are now in progress which will powerfully affect the future destinies of the five great nations of the world. Little Hongkong is not far removed from the centre of action and its rulers may have a word to say to the shaping of events." In so far as General BLACK may have had a word to say in the shaping of events during the past ten months we have no doubt it has been a wise word. In our local affairs his administration has been completely successful, and in larger matters of an international character his opinion should command confidence and respect by reason of his sound judgment, his experience, and his ability to take a broadminded view of any subject that may be presented to him.

THE NEW SANITARY BILL.

(Daily Press, 25th November.)

The Bill to make further provision for the sanitation of the Colony has been long pending, and, after the report of the Insanitary Properties Commission and recommendations of the Sanitary Board, its provisions will not cause surprise nor, we hope, excite opposition as regards its principle, though on points of detail there will inevitably be differences of opinion. The necessity for the Bill could not be more adequately set out than it was in the Acting Governor's farewell address at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Tuesday, in which His Excellency said:—"The recurrence of the plague has forced on every thinking man the need of letting light and air into the blocks of Chinese houses which, full

of human beings in many cases, literally stand back to back in the City of Victoria, containing rooms into which the sun never enters, and where the fetid air has no motion. Doctors and phisic, good though they be by themselves, are powerless to cure, while sun and air are a sure preventive; and great as the task may be of bringing these natural agents into this reeking mass of humanity their admission must be secured by law. A Bill is now before you which I admit does not go far enough, but it will at least be the beginning of a great reform." Buildings erected on land purchased from the Crown since the passing of the Public Health Act of 1887 are required to have, under the provisions of that Act, a backyard along the entire width of such buildings, the width of such backyard, in the case of buildings of two or more storeys, being at least 15 ft. But the Public Health Act of 1887 left buildings on land that had been acquired before the date of that Act untouched as regards the provision of open spaces. This omission is remedied in the Bill now before the Council, which provides that every domestic building in the colony already erected or now in process of erection shall be provided at the expense of the owner with an open space in the rear in accordance with a fixed scale. This scale differs from the recommendations made in the report of the Insanitary Properties Commission and the subsequent recommendations of the Sanitary Board. The Commission recommended simply that the open space should be not less than 40 square feet. The Sanitary Board introduced a scale, the recommendation of that body being as follows:—"Every house should have an open space in the rear, of the area mentioned in the following table, which area should extend for at least half the width of the house and from the back wall of such house to the line of division between it and the adjoining house or property:—Houses exceeding 40 ft. in depth, 50 sq. ft.; exceeding 40 ft. not exceeding 50 ft., 90 sq. ft.; exceeding 50 ft. not exceeding 60 ft., 130 sq. ft.; exceeding 60 ft., 175 sq. ft." The Bill now under consideration provides two scales, one for houses already erected or in course of erection, and the other for houses hereafter erected. Existing houses not exceeding 40 ft. in depth are required to have an open space of not less than 4 sq. ft. for each ft. of width; exceeding 40 ft. but not exceeding 50 ft., 6 sq. ft.; exceeding 50 ft. but not exceeding 60 ft., 8 sq. ft.; and exceeding 60 ft., 12 sq. ft. for each ft. of width. Taking the width of the house as 15 ft. a house of the smallest depth would have to have an open space of 60 ft., while in the case of houses of the same width and exceeding 60 ft. in depth the area of the open space required would be 180 ft.; as against the 40 ft. recommended by the Insanitary Properties Commission and the maximum of 175 ft. recommended by the Sanitary Board. This scale is largely increased for houses to be hereafter erected, the open area required being doubled in the case of houses of the smallest depth and increased by one-sixth in those of the greatest depth.

The amount of open space provided by the Bill is none too great, but its increase beyond the limits previously recommended will necessarily affect more seriously the interests of the property owners and increase the number of cases in which resumption may become necessary. The Insanitary Properties Commission contemplated that the provision of even 40 ft. areas might, in some cases leave the existing houses more

or less useless for all practical purposes and that in such cases resumption by the Crown would become necessary; but they recommended that the Ordinance enabling the Government to resume insanitary properties should be amended so as to allow of deductions being made on account of illegal rents, insanitary conditions, etc., etc., when assessing compensation. The Hon. C. P. CHATER said in the Legislative Council on Tuesday he was of opinion that the Bill would mean almost confiscation of property from the smaller holders. It was presumably to avoid confiscation that the Insanitary Properties Commission confined their recommendation as to open areas within such small limits. No one, of course, would advocate confiscation pure and simple, and the only alternative, in cases where the available area left after the provision of the open space is so small as to be practically useless, is resumption by the Crown; but in such cases the amount to be paid as compensation should be subject to deductions on the grounds recommended by the Commissioners. Another important point for consideration arises from the fact that landlords have in a considerable number of cases voluntarily complied with the suggestions of the Sanitary Board and sacrificed a portion of the kitchen to make an air shaft for back to back houses. Will these same landlords be required to go to the expense of again making structural alterations in their property in order to increase the area of the open space? That would seem on the face of it to be rather a hard case.

The sacrifice of building space is perhaps the most important point in the Bill affecting the pecuniary interests of landlords, but the restrictions placed on the use of cubicles and cocklofts will also in all probability lessen the letting value of their properties. The restrictions are, however, very necessary, and presumably the landlords have made up their minds to submit to them, as the publication of the report of the Insanitary Properties Commission and the subsequent recommendations of the Sanitary Board called forth no protest. The Bill is undoubtedly a step in the right direction, but we think it will be found to render necessary the resumption by the Government of much more property than was contemplated by the Insanitary Properties Commission.

THE CHINA TEA TRADE.

(Daily Press, 20th November.)

The Indian and Ceylon tea planters use as one of their arguments against a high exchange value of the rupee the bounty that cheap silver is supposed to confer upon China tea, thereby favouring the competition of the latter. So far the bounty, if there is any bounty in the matter, has done little good to China tea, the trade in which is steadily declining, the advantages of cheap silver weighing but as a feather in the scale against the heavy disadvantages of excessive taxation and primitive methods of cultivation and preparation. Mr. F. E. TAYLOR, the Statistical Secretary of the Imperial Maritime Customs, in his report on the foreign trade of China for 1897, expresses a belief in the possibility of reviving the tea trade. "I believe," he says, "that the experiment commenced at Foochow, and shortly to be initiated at Hankow, will, if sufficient leaf can be procured close to the factory, eventually result in a success which will encourage the adoption of similar methods in other centres of the tea industry and will regain for this im-

portant trade a large measure of its former prosperity." It is possible that this opinion may be justified by the result, provided that with improved methods of growth and preparation there also goes some considerable measure of relief from the present scale of taxation, for the industry could not possibly flourish, however well conducted as regards cultivation and preparation, so long as the State continued to lay excessive burdens upon it.

Relief from illegal or excessive taxation is one of the results that may be expected from the direct participation of foreigners in the industry. Mr. CARLES, the Consul at Foochow, in his last report refers to the Foochow Tea Improvement Company's plantation at Doon Ling and says:—"The local Government regards the Company not unfavourably and itself is making an effort to restore the tea trade by reducing the lekin charges. The reduction is intended also to benefit the provincial Government, which is apprehensive that teas may be brought down under the transit pass, the duties under which would be paid to the central Government. . . . The intention, as I am assured by the officials, is to underbid transit dues." Chinese assurances do not count for much in themselves, but where foreigners have a direct interest in the business it may be possible, by means of the transit pass, to keep taxation within moderate limits, though the lekin authorities may be expected to make a stout fight over it.

In the meantime the industry is steadily declining. Mr. BRENNAN, in the Canton Consular report for last year, incorporates some remarks by "gentlemen of experience" in the trade on various staples of export. The authority on tea, after noting the decrease in the export, goes on to say:—"Scented capers are used solely for blending. Formerly this blending was done by numerous retailers throughout England; now it is in the hands of two or three large blenders, and should they decide to exclude scented teas from their blends the export from Canton would entirely cease. The decrease is not due to a deterioration in quality; in fact, during the past three years these teas have been rather purer, but they are being pushed out by the Indian and Ceylon growths. These latter pay no export duty, whereas the Canton duties and taxes amount to as much as 35 per cent. of the cost price." It may be remembered that in the Amoy Consular report for 1896 some remarks on the tea trade of the port, supplied by Mr. FRANK CASS, were incorporated. Mr. CASS, after remarking that the crop of Amoy Oolongs in 1896 amounted to 1,200,000 lbs., a shortage of 55 per cent. on the previous year, went on to say:—"An equally marked decline is expected in 1897, after which the article will probably cease to appear as an item in our trade returns, as the tea districts are being rapidly thrown out of cultivation, and most of them are irrevocably ruined." The reason, he said, was not far to seek: the entire crops realised \$136,000, while the lekin paid amounted to \$20,000 and the export duty to \$35,000, or a total of \$55,000, considerably more than one-third of the value of the tea.

Turning now to the report of Mr. MOREHOUSE, the Commissioner of Customs at Amoy, for last year, we find Mr. CASS's prognostication amply fulfilled. Mr. MOREHOUSE says:—"In all probability this trade report will be the last in which reference will be made to Amoy tea as an important

factor in our trade. Twenty-five years ago 65,800 piculs were exported; this year the total is 12,127 piculs, and even at present writing there are 1,200 piculs remaining unsold in the hands of the native tea-men, with a very remote chance of their ever finding a purchaser." Mr. MOREHOUSE adds that the export and lekin duty are factors which militate against the hopes of the most sanguine, and that it is now too late to propose remedial measures which would resuscitate the already moribund leaf, formerly the leading article of export; but goes on to say that "The native growers are not entirely free from blame; of late years they have been content to produce any article which would sell, but the new United States law establishing standards has practically shut out the article as now produced." The deterioration of the quality, however, may be set down as more or less due to the excessive taxation, for, notwithstanding the experience to the contrary given in the Canton Consular report, it may be assumed as a general rule that when any trade is being taxed out of existence the producers will be driven to pinch the quality until, as at Amoy, the inevitable collapse comes. Prohibitive import duties imposed for the protection of home industries may admit of some defence on economic grounds, but what shall be said of a Government that taxes its export trade out of existence by prohibitive duties? While that policy continues in respect of China's tea trade the Indian and Ceylon planters need have little fear of any formidable competition being nursed by variations in the gold value of the dollar and rupee.

MR. GWYTHER ON THE CHINA QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 23rd November.)

The report of the meeting of the Chartered Bank held on the 19th October, containing as it does references to the political position in China and the prospects for railways in that country, will be found of exceptional interest. Mr. GWYTHER, the Chairman, is not a member of the Jingo party, and his remarks on Anglo-Russian relations in China may therefore not command acceptance with many in the Far East, though no doubt they reflect the views of an influential section. "I think," said Mr. GWYTHER, "we owe a deep debt of gratitude to Lord SALISBURY, who, in a time of great difficulty and amidst constant new developments, wisely turned a deaf ear to the sneers and gibes of irresponsible members of Parliament and press writers, which most assuredly, if they had been listened to, would have precipitated England into a war with Russia." Presumably Mr. GWYTHER would not flinch from war if there was any necessity or justification for it, but in these days the fashionable political creed is, as the *Spectator* put it the other day, that Lord SALISBURY must "put his foot down." Lord SALISBURY must "stiffen his back." Lord SALISBURY must "speak plainly." In short, Lord SALISBURY must everywhere and on each occasion, adequate or inadequate, threaten war, and if resisted, make his threatenings good. Mr. GWYTHER apparently endorses the *Spectator's* opinion that that is not diplomacy, or statesmanship either.

Turning from the political to the commercial side of the China question, we find Mr. GWYTHER uttering a not unneeded note of warning on the prospects of railway and mining development. "We read," he said, of various

"schemes for railway and mining exploitation, and we as a Bank, of course, would hail with great satisfaction any endeavours to open up the country; but I fear in many cases that the promoters have mainly in view the sale of worthless concessions to the innocent inhabitants of the British Isles." Almost every mail brings out news of the registration of some Company or other whose nominal object is to work concessions in China, but the real object of some of them is no doubt the exploitation of the gullible public. There is, however, a great future for railway and mining enterprise in China, and the remarks of Mr. JAMES JONES at the Chartered Bank meeting with reference to the old fongshui and graveyard difficulties will command little acceptance at the present day. But investors before going into any scheme placed before them had better make enquiries as to who the promoters are and whether they have any real stake in China: or knowledge of the country. But while agreeing with Mr. GWYNNE as to the necessity of caution in regard to such enterprises as he points to, we think he takes too pessimistic a view of the possibility of developing trade with China; The balance of trade, he says, is already against that country and her annual indebtedness to Europe in respect of interest on her loans and sinking funds will reach £3,000,000 in the commencement of next century, and he counselled those who dilated on the power of China to absorb manufactured goods and silver *ad libitum* to carefully examine for themselves the trade reports issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and thereafter they would no doubt discuss the question in a more sober fashion. That the Chinese Government may sooner or later become involved in financial difficulties is very probable, unless they obtain foreign assistance in the management of the country's affairs and reconstruct her fiscal system on a rational and honest basis. China's capacity for trade, however, is almost illimitable, and, given improved means of communication and freedom from illegal or excessive exactions, the expectations of the most sanguine would be realised. If the taxation of exports were abolished we should soon see a marked advance in that branch, which would be followed by an equally marked increase in the imports. Even as it is the balance of trade can hardly be said to be against China, for although the net imports in 1897 are given as Tls. 202,828,625 and the exports as Tls. 163,501,358, when the duty and charges are deducted from the former and added to the latter we find from the Statistical Secretary's report that the value of the imports at the moment of landing was Tls. 177,915,163 while the value of exports at the moment of shipment was Tls. 181,769,995.

THE YELLOW RIVER.

(Daily Press 19th November).

The representation made by the Shantung and Honan Conference of Protestant Missionaries to the Diplomatic Body at Peking with reference to the Yellow River will be endorsed by the foreign communities throughout China. From time to time the river bursts its banks and spreads desolation over the districts through which it flows; floods occur, destroying the crops, and appeals have to be made to the charitably disposed to assist the suffering population during the time of the resulting famine. The unruly stream has once more left its bed some hundred and fifty miles or more from its mouth and has found a new course for itself

to the sea. The Rev. H. D. PERLER, who has travelled by boat from the breach to the sea, thinks it probable that the stream will permanently follow the course into which it has now run, the closing of the breach being apparently too stupendous a task to be undertaken with any prospect of success. The Missionary Conference draw attention to the immense loss of life, property, and money caused by the frequently recurring outbreaks of the river; the many appeals made and so nobly responded to both by foreigners and natives; the great sums of money used by the Government for the relief of the suffering people, and the still more enormous sums constantly set aside by the Government for the repairing of damages and in the attempt to conserve the river; and they express a hope that the Foreign Ministers will be moved, if but for the sake of humanity, to do what is possible to urge upon the Chinese Government the necessity of trying new plans for controlling the waters. The methods hitherto adopted, they say, have proved quite inadequate and are of doubtful utility, and the petitioners respectfully suggest that the Chinese Government be pressed to appoint a commission of foreign experts to make a full investigation and report on the best means of preventing these calamities and of utilising the waters which they feel assured might thus cease to be an unmitigated evil and become a source of material prosperity. The suggestion that a commission of foreign experts should be appointed to deal with the problem is a sensible one and it is to be hoped that the Ministers will urge it upon the Tsungli Yamen with all the force of which they are capable. In the meantime LI HUNG-CHANG has been appointed by the Empress-Dowager to examine the question on the spot and submit a report thereon. If confidence could only be reposed in Li's disinterestedness perhaps no better selection could have been made from the ranks of the Chinese officials, for His Excellency has had intimate intercourse with foreigners during his long tenure of office at Tientsin, has travelled, has been shown the sights of Europe, and must have some appreciation of Western engineering science. He hates the foreigner, however, and at the present moment his hatred is probably more intense than ever. Possibly, therefore, he may elect to recommend persistence in the ineffective native methods rather than allow foreigners to confer a benefit on his country. It is to be hoped, however, that he may be able to rise superior to any personal feeling of that kind and to consider the real interests of his country. There is no doubt the Yellow River could be brought under control, but not by Chinese methods.

The United States cruiser *McCulloch* left for home on the 24th November being seen off by Consul-General Wildman.

That everything in connection with H.M. ships in the harbour is in apple-pie order was made abundantly evident on Saturday forenoon. A signal was made from Admiral Fitzgerald's flagship (*Barfleur*) to land detachments in full marching order with guns, ammunition, and provisions. Saturday is a busy day on board ship, and at the time the order was given the men were hard at work cleaning. The order could hardly have come at a more inopportune moment, and it is, therefore, exceedingly creditable to all concerned that within thirty minutes about 2,000 men, including marines and field-gun crews, had been put ashore, each man carrying 100 rounds of ammunition and two days' provisions. Six nine-pounders were also landed. The men formed up and, headed by the ships' bands, marched through the town, exciting the admiration of all beholders.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On 22nd Nov. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the ACTING GOVERNOR, Major-General BLACK, C.B. (Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Acting Colonial Secretary.)

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police.)

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Treasurer.)

Hon. R. D. OMSBY (Director of Public Works.)

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils.)

This being the Acting Governor's last appearance at the Council meeting a number of ladies and gentlemen belonging to the outside public attended.

THE ACTING-GOVERNOR'S FAREWELL.

His Excellency MAJOR-GENERAL BLACK, before the commencement of the ordinary business, said:—All business firms whether large or small take stock once a year, and call a momentary halt to see how they stand before girding up their loins for the work of the coming year. Governments, which are but large business firms working for the public weal, in the same way review each year their position, and not only put forward their balance sheet but indicate with modest satisfaction schemes which have run smoothly and well, and gloss over those which, however well laid, have for some cause or other gone awry. I take, then, no unusual course in asking you to listen while I briefly touch upon some of the events which have made the ten months I have had the honour to hold the reins more eventful than many like periods in your past history. Although less severe than in 1894, the Plague has this year claimed 1,163 victims out of 1,320 stricken. Wisely abandoning the too stringent application of Western methods the Government erected suitable hospital buildings at Kennedytown, placed them in charge of the Tungwa Hospital, and induced to Chinese to carry their sick to that benevolent institution. While deeply deploring the loss by this dread visitation, I am glad to congratulate the medical profession, and the other Government officials whose duty connected them with the suppression of the plague, for the strenuous and unselfish efforts with which they carried out their humane duties. Three of the sisters caught the infection at the post of duty, of whom two died, giving up their lives as nobly as men who die on the field amid the din and excitement of battle. (Applause.) The outbreak of war between Spain and America—two countries in friendly relations with England—throw on this Government the onerous task of maintaining the laws of neutrality. A little island stored with food, coal, and all the munitions of war in great abundance lying off a coast indented with harbours, is naturally a convenient spot where belligerents might replenish their stores of coal and food, and it is a source of satisfaction to this Government that thanks to the energy and tact with which the officials carried out their duties, the laws of neutrality were strictly enforced, and yet the end of the war found us on as friendly terms with either belligerent as at the beginning. The changes that this war may bring may deeply affect this colony but they still lie in the future and are not yet within our ken. A social incident not without its bearing on a great national movement was the arrival in Hongkong of a German Prince charged for the first time with high command in Eastern waters. The Prince of Prussia would have found a welcome for his own sake. Courteous, kind, and capable, yet every inch a Prince, he was welcomed by the whole community of Hongkong, and the English inhabitants did not forget in their welcome that he and his wife are grand-children of our beloved Queen. (Applause.) Hongkong has long felt the anomaly of its position, with the north-

ern side of its magnificent harbour actually belonging to another power, its forts at the eastern entrance commanded at short rifle range by the Devil's Peak, and the end of its mine fields almost touching the Chinese soil, the Bay of Kowloon within the precincts of its harbour but outside its jurisdiction. In June last a Convention was signed by which our boundary line is pushed some 13 miles to the north, thus sweeping away these anomalies giving Hongkong room to expand, and more than all preventing the passing into other hands of the roadstead of Lantau, and the safe harbours of Mirs Bay. (Applause.) Much interest is naturally felt in Hongkong as to the position of the stations of the Maritime Customs. It seems to me only just and necessary that these should recede with the new boundary—(applause)—for it would be an abdication of sovereignty if a foreign power were allowed to exercise control within British waters. At the same time I recognise that it is right that we should aid the friendly Government of China in her task of protecting her revenue, made so difficult by the indented nature of the coast line, and to this end I have suggested that opium should be stored in Government Godowns, and only issued on Government permit. In legislation much useful but unobtrusive work has been done. I may instance:—The Trade Marks Ordinance. The Liquor Licences Ordinance, The Bank Note Ordinance. The increased issue of Bank notes has, from causes well known to you all, been long demanded and the enlarged circulation is proving a great boon. The Queen's Recreation Ground Ordinance; in the last I have taken a great interest, and I have some right to look upon it as a bantling of my own. The recurrence of the plague has forced on every thinking man the need of letting light and air into the blocks of Chinese houses, which, full of human beings in many cases, literally stand back to back in the City of Victoria, containing rooms into which the sun never enters, and where the fetid air has no motion. Doctors and physic, good though they be by themselves, are powerless to cure, while sun and air are sure preventives; and great as the task may be of bringing these natural agents into this reeking mass of humanity their admission must be secured by law. A bill is now before you which I admit does not go far enough, but it will at least be the beginning of a great reform. Many complaints have been made as to the shortcomings of the Post Office; a great deal of the confusion comes from retrenchment having been carried too far, and from the business having outgrown the building. I have submitted recommendations to the Secretary of State which will, I trust, produce great improvement in the department, in whose well-being every individual is concerned. Nearly allied to the Queen's Recreation Ground is the reservation of the rocky bluff on which stands the boulders called Sung Wang Toi or the "Watch Towers of the Sung" which, as far as I can gather, is the only historical monument which links modern history with the old-world time. To make its reservation more certain, I applied to the Secretary of State for leave to bring in a bill to this end, and his permission is now on the sea. I regret that I will not have the pleasure of giving assent to it. A survey has been made of the Jubilee Road round the Island. It has been traced with easy gradients, and offers in the section between Aberdeen and Deep Water Bay, an important sanitary reform, for part of the scheme is to fill up and turf over the festering inlet, to which the leading medical men of the colony point as the source of the malaria which has so long marred the health of Aberdeen and the neighbourhood of Magazine Gap. I have nothing but the good of the community at heart, and I emphatically state that if you believe medical testimony, it is your duty to decree that this section be the first taken in hand. Health and pleasure and the wheels of progress, and I may add of bicycles, move on roads, and in my belief a great strengthening of the defence of this Island will take place when the tracing across the pathless barrier of Mount Cameron and Mount Nicholson is broadened into a road. Shortly after arriving in this colony I urged the Government to take this in hand on public grounds, and it is with great pleasure that by an agreement effected on my

representation this boon to the pleasure of the colony and to its defence may be expected shortly to begin. The Executive Council has directed that this road be called "General Black's Link." I feel and value the compliment and only ask that the name may be shortened to "The Black Link." I can hardly teach you much about finance; the revenue is increasing, the financial position is sound, and taxation is light; but costly works lie ahead. New Law Courts, New General Post Office, a new Government Residence at the Peak and other public works for which money will have to be provided; in fact the cry is ever "Onward," and I have no doubt that under the able Director, the public works of the future will be as magnificent and useful as those undertaken in the past. It is beyond my province to do more than allude to the great dramas that have been and are being enacted around us. We live in a history-making epoch and changes are now in progress which will powerfully affect the future destinies of the five great nations of the world. Little Hongkong is not far removed from the centre of action, and its rulers may have a word to say to the shaping of events. Sir Henry Blake will shortly arrive to assume the reins of government and I congratulate the colony on having secured a chief so able and so experienced, and have no doubt that the colony will advance under his wise rule. I cannot retire from the Presidency of this Council without thanking the Honourable Members for the zeal and attention which they have brought to bear on all matters submitted to them and for the kindly spirit which has animated all their dealings with me. I have much pleasure in acknowledging the loyal and willing co-operation with which the Colonial Secretary and the other official members have worked with me in our joint task of carrying out the administration of the colony. (Applause.)

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Your Excellency, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, the unofficial members, I have to thank you indeed very much for what you have been pleased to say about us, and I should like to offer a few remarks on this occasion, being the last you will as Officer Administering the Government preside over this Council. During the 10 months you have filled the chair you have always shown unflinching tact in the conduct of the business of the Council and the utmost consideration for its members, and we have now to thank you for that consideration and courtesy. Your Excellency has during the tenure of your office as Acting Governor been called upon to exercise a good deal of nice discrimination in several matters and you have never spared time or trouble in connection with the affairs of the colony. Your term of administration, it is interesting to remember, will always be memorable in our local annals as the year in which the extension of the boundaries of the colony was secured, and the part you have taken in connection therewith will be a pleasant recollection to you when you are far away. In taking leave of your Excellency as the President of the Council I trust you will have an equally useful field for your energies in some other part of our very wide Empire—(hear, hear)—and that your sterling qualities will be as highly and as fully appreciated as they are in this colony. (Applause.)

Hon. HO KAI—Your Excellency, as senior representative of the Chinese, perhaps I will be permitted to add a few remarks to those that have fallen from the senior unofficial member. On behalf of the Chinese, I would acknowledge to your Excellency that they appreciate your wise and benevolent administration to the fullest extent, and the only regret the Chinese community have is that that reign, so beneficent and so conducive to their welfare, is all but too short. When you vacate the chair of this Council, when you leave the administration of the Government, the Chinese will feel that they will have lost a wise ruler as well as a true friend. Personally, I have to thank your Excellency for the many kind acts that you have shown towards myself and my colleague, the Hon. Wei Yak, thus rendering what otherwise would be a difficult task, to represent the Chinese in this Council, an easy matter and also a pleasant one. I can assure your Excellency that long afterwards we will remember your kindness to us, and also the support and assistance you have given to us in our public capacity

and shown us in our private intercourse. (Applause.)

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Before proceeding with the business of the day, I am sure your Excellency will excuse me if I say that the official members of this Council are much indebted to your Excellency for the kind terms in which your Excellency has spoken of the co-operation and zeal with which the official members of this Council have worked with your Excellency. I do not think I am flattering the Civil Service of this colony when I say that loyal co-operation with all its Governors, and zeal to carry out measures conducive to the welfare of the colony are marks of the Civil Service of this colony. I think I may go a little further than merely offer the warmest thanks of the official members, and make myself spokesman of all the Civil Servants. Many of them have not been, perhaps, brought into personal contact with your Excellency, but the manner in which you have ruled, and given your decisions, and the gentle and firm way in which you have held the reins of office cannot but be admired by the members of our service. (Applause.)

The business of the meeting was then proceeded with.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted as a correct record.

FINANCIAL.

On the motion of the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER, financial minutes Nos. 16 to 22 were referred to the Finance Committee.

On the motion of the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER, the report of the Finance Committee, No. 7, was adopted.

SANITARY BYE-LAWS.

On the motion of the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER, Sanitary Bye-laws regulating the use of cemeteries submitted by the Sanitary Board were approved.

VALUATIONS INCREASED.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I rise to move the following resolution:—"That the percentages on the valuation of tenements in Hok-ün and Kwo-lo-wan (the latter now known as Kowloon Marine Lot 40) at present payable as rates under the Rating Ordinance of 1888, as amended by Ordinance No. 5 of 1892, be altered from 7 per cent. to 9 per cent." The necessity for this resolution arises from the fact that the water mains at Kowloon are being extended to the villages named.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

FURTHER PROVISION FOR THE SANITATION OF THE COLONY.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I have the honour to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to make further provision for the sanitation of the colony and to repeal certain enactments of the closed houses and insanitary dwellings Ordinance, 1894. It is not customary to treat in any detailed manner of the arguments in favour of a Bill on the first reading, and I do not propose to do so on the present occasion. I will only say that perhaps no more important measure has ever been brought before the Council than this Bill, and I am sure the members of this Council feel it will give your Excellency great satisfaction if hereafter you shall learn that the Bill has passed into law in such a form as to be of real service to the cause of sanitary improvement in this colony. However, there are one or two points in the Bill so inaccurate or contradictory that I think it is desirable to draw attention to them, as it is probable they will deserve the consideration of the Government before the Bill is brought up for a second reading. The first point is in section four, subsection c, the latter portion of which reads as follows:—"And such floor area shall not in any case be less than that laid down in the substituted section 67 of the Public Health Ordinance, 1887, as set out in section 9 of Ordinance 15 of 1894." The fact is that there is no regulation regarding floor area *per se*. The number of persons who may inhabit a domestic building is limited in accordance to the floor area—that is to say only one adult person to every 30 square feet of floor area—and as it is

apparently that provision which was intended to be referred to these words require attention. The next point is in section 6, where the following words occur:—"The provisions of every Ordinance or bye-law in force in this colony as to keeping backyards clear of obstruction shall apply to every such open space as aforesaid." Now, sir, if we examine for a moment the bye-law which regulates backyards, namely No. 5 of the bye-laws made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894 and published in the *Government Gazette* of 22nd May, 1897, we find a proviso at the end of the first paragraph which reads:—"Provided, nevertheless, that in cases where such back-yards exceed an area of 100 square feet in the case of buildings of two storeys in height, and 150 square feet in the case of buildings of three or more storeys in height, such back-yards need only be kept clear of obstructions (including bridges and covered ways) and fixtures, and open vertically to the sky throughout, to the extent of 100 and 150 square feet respectively." That is to say that the largest open space that need under the bye-law at present be kept clear of obstruction in a back-yard in this colony is 150 square feet, but let us look for a moment at the scales of open spaces which are proposed for domestic buildings in the future. We will take the one nearest:—"Houses exceeding 60 feet in depth, for each foot of width, 14 square feet." In the case of a house 15 feet in width that would give an open air space of 210 square feet. To make that subject to the provision of the bye-law, what you give with the one hand you take away with the other, because bye-law No. 5 says only 150 square feet need be kept open. Therefore when a man had made his open air-space of 210 square feet, he would be allowed under the bye-law to close up 60 square feet of it. That is a point which must have escaped the draughtsman. Then, sir, at the end of the scale relating to the provision of lanes a proviso is required that such lanes when formed shall be kept free from obstruction. It is clearly of little use to accept the opening out of a back lane without some provision being made for such back lane to be kept open and unobstructed. The next subsection (sub-section b) says:—"In computing the depth of a house for the purposes of this section the depth of the kitchen shall be included in the computation of such depth in every case except when such kitchen is separated from the habitable portion of such house by an open yard extending the entire width of the back of such house." That sub-section, sir, is contradictory to the scales which appear above and to the spirit in which they were made. To give an instance. It is provided that for houses exceeding 60 feet in depth 14 square feet of open air space should be provided for each foot of width. That would give 180 square feet—that is measuring the house over all—but if such houses had a back-yard six feet in width and a kitchen beyond that of six feet in width, these 12 feet would according to the sub-section have to be deducted from the 60 feet over all, and that would leave 48 feet for the principal dwelling room, which apparently according to this sub-section would be accepted as the depth of the house. That would bring the house into the second class of the scale instead of the fourth class. It would become a house "exceeding 40 feet but not exceeding 50 feet," and for each foot of width there would only have to be provided an open-air space of six feet or 50 per cent. less than was intended under the scale. The introduction of this sub-section would have the effect generally of diminishing the air space,—for it must be remembered that the kitchen as well as the dwelling room require ventilation—that was intended to be provided under the scales, and would induce to the contriving of narrow backyards in order to make a house measure as short as possible, and to the building to backyards instead of to back (or scavenging) lanes, which would be contrary to the whole spirit of the scales. If the sub-section is deleted something of this sort would have to be substituted:—"the depth of a house for the purposes of this section shall always be computed by measuring from the front main wall to the back main wall of the premises," and if the word "premises" is used the expression "premises" should be defined. In the interpretation clause the Ordinance "domestic build-

ing" is defined and does not include a kitchen, and the word "premises" might be defined as meaning any domestic building together with any cookhouse, outhouse, store-room, shop, work-room, or other adjunct thereto. There is another point in section 7. There is a bye-law dealing with the obstruction of private streets and lanes, but I think that if the bye-law is carefully scanned it cannot be found to be satisfactorily worded. It reads as follows:—"No street over land held under lease from the Crown upon which any domestic buildings abut, shall, without the permission in writing of the Sanitary Board, be obstructed by any structure whether temporary or permanent which may, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health or such other officer as may be appointed for that purpose by the Sanitary Board, prejudicially affect the health of any of the inmates of any of such buildings, or if such street be already partially so obstructed it shall not be further so obstructed, without such permission in writing." That bye-law says that if the Medical Officer of Health raises no objection to the obstruction of any such street the street may be obstructed in defiance of any objection on the part of the Sanitary Board, but if the Medical Officer of Health pronounces the obstruction to prejudicially effect the health of any of the inmates of any such buildings then the Sanitary Board may grant permission for the obstruction of the street in defiance of the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health. I do not think, sir, that a piece of legislation of that kind can when carefully examined commend itself to the practical common sense of the community, and, moreover, it places the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Board in antagonism and in a very peculiar position. It would be simpler far, if, as I think it must be conceded, these private streets and lanes should not be obstructed, to add to the section some such words as, "No obstructions whatever shall be placed in any street or lane on which domestic buildings abut." I mention these few points. They appear some of them to have crept quite unintentionally into the Bill which is only to be expected in a measure of such a highly technical nature.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—I quite agree with the opening remarks of the Hon. the Captain Superintendent of Police when he stated that at the first reading of a Bill it is not customary to address the Council. I, like him, had no intention of addressing the Council, but I think a remark or two at the present moment may not be out of place. The Hon. the Captain Superintendent of Police stated that the Bill before us was a very important one. Yes, I say, sir, it is one of the most important Bills we have had before us for a long while and it is important in more ways than one. It is very important indeed, sir, to most of the Chinese in Hongkong who hold a large amount of property, and I would therefore ask your Excellency that before the second reading of this Bill takes place you will see that the Bill is translated into Chinese and not only published in the *Government Gazette*, but also in as many leading Chinese newspapers as possible. (Hear, hear.) Very large vested interest of the Chinese will be effected if this Bill should pass as it now stands. In fact I am of opinion it will mean almost confiscation of property from the smaller holders.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think every Bill which affects the whole community should be published in that way.

Dr. HO KAI—I wish to add my request to that of the senior unofficial member.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think it a most admirable suggestion.

The Bill passed the first reading.

HONGKONG CHINESE AND THE PHILIPPINES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In the absence of the Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Pollock, who is detained at the Criminal Sessions, I have the honour to move in his stead the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the imposition of fees for the issue by the Government of Hongkong of certain certificates to certain classes of Chinese who are desirous of going to the port of Manila in the Philippine Islands. Members of the Coun-

oil will remember that some time ago in this year a similar Ordinance with regard to the granting of certificates to certain classes of Chinese desirous of going to the United States was passed by this Council. In that case the fee was \$50 and in this case it is \$25. The objects and reasons are fully stated in the note attached by the Hon. Attorney-General to the Bill.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill passed the first reading.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think it would be as well, sir, to pass this Bill through all its stages to-day, and therefore I beg to move that the standing orders be suspended.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was passed.

On the motion of the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER, the Bill was read a second time.

The Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—It is \$50 for a fee for America, but the Philippines are a much shorter distance away and \$25 seems rather heavy.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—May I ask the Colonial Secretary if it is intended to charge \$25 on each occasion a person may wish to go to Manila.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—It will depend on the view the authorities of Manila take.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER—The same amount of work is involved no matter what the distance.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—It is not the distance I am speaking about. I wanted to know whether every trip the same emigrant made he would have to pay \$25. If so I am quite of the same opinion as the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai that it is rather heavy, but if not I think it should be \$25.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Supposing a man returns here and then goes back again he must have one of these certificates?

HIS EXCELLENCY—My own impression is that in the States they only pay once for their certificates because the United States give a permit to return.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—If a man does not get a permit from the United States to return he has to get a fresh certificate.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

NATURALISATION.

A Bill for the naturalisation of Un Chung Wo alias Un Oi U alias Un Hi alias Un Kwok Hi, was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding.

VOTES.

The following votes were approved:—

A sum of \$3,472 in aid of the following votes:—(a) Provisions for Prisoners, \$2,000.00; (b) Materials for Remunerative Industry, 1,000.00; (c) Clothing, etc., for Gaol Staff, 472.00; total, \$3,472.00.

A sum of \$2,300 to meet the cost of certain alterations in the Gaol for laundry purposes.

A sum of \$150.94 to cover the expenses incurred in connection with the recovery of the Gap Rock moorings.

A sum of \$2,700 to meet the following expenses during the current year:—

(1.) Half salary of the Acting Colonial Secretary from 26th June to 5th October, 1896, \$1,347.82.

(2.) Expenses of the Special Commissioner (Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.) in connection with the extension of the Kowloon boundaries, 1,352.18. Total, \$2,700.00.

A sum of \$600 in aid of the vote "Improvement of Gas Lighting, City of Victoria."

A sum of (\$500) in aid of the vote "Incidental Expenses," Sanitary Department.

A sum of \$900 in aid of the following votes, Police Department:—1, oil and wick and gas for barracks, \$500.00; 2, meals for prisoners in cells, \$100.00; 3, photography, \$200.00; 4, secret service, \$100.00; total, \$900.00.

The committee then adjourned.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AT SHANGHAI.

ENTERTAINED AT DINNER BY THE
CHINA ASSOCIATION.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS,"]
SHANGHAI, 20th November.

Last night Lord Charles Beresford attended the annual dinner of the China Association at which 160 persons were present. Lord Charles, who spoke for an hour, delivered an admirable address, in the course of which he complained of the entire loss of prestige at Peking sustained by the British Government. He contended that England had no policy in China and that the Russians were completely surprised at being allowed to make such a large advance. The British sphere of influence in the Yangtze valley was altogether illusory. The only solution of the China problem was for Britain, America, Germany, and Japan to come to an agreement with regard to the "open door." Britain must re-organise the Chinese army. A strong resolution was unanimously passed embodying Lord Charles' points.

SUPREME COURT.

18th November.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF
JUSTICE).

THE CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST A HUSBAND.

Lui Ng was indicted for the manslaughter of his wife, Wong Mui, on the second of November. On the charge being interpreted to him, Prisoner pleaded guilty but asked his lordship to have mercy upon him. He did not intentionally kill his wife; it was purely accidental.

His Lordship—Of course if he had intended to kill her that would have been another offence and he would have been tried for murder.

Prisoner admitted he caused his wife's death by striking her with a bamboo. He was very sorry for what he had done.

The Acting Attorney-General (Mr. Pollock) said he expected his lordship had read the depositions in the case. It was a case of a very unusual and somewhat distressing character. As his lordship was aware, from the depositions taken at the Police Court, the deceased woman was prisoner's wife and was at the time prisoner inflicted this blow upon her pregnant, and it was a very unusual kind of pregnancy—that is an extra uterine pregnancy—and the medical evidence given at the Police Court by Dr. Bell was to the effect that in such a case the result was almost invariably fatal in the ordinary course of things, apart from any violence. That being so, in preparing the indictment in this case he framed it as one of manslaughter and not of murder, because it did not seem to him that one would be justified in assuming the blow was given with the intention of inflicting death upon this unfortunate woman. There was no doubt, upon the man's own confession and upon his statement, that he did inflict a blow upon deceased, but in view of the fact that prisoner did not intend to cause death, and also in view of the fact that there undoubtedly was a quarrel going on for some minutes before the blow was struck between prisoner and deceased, he would submit to the court that this was a case of a very peculiar character in which death could not possibly have been foreseen as the result of the blow, and therefore he would ask his lordship to take a merciful view of the case.

His Lordship, addressing prisoner, said he was glad he had pleaded guilty to this charge. It showed he was sorry for what he had done. It seemed to him that it was quite clear prisoner did not mean to cause the woman's death. He was afraid she seemed to be a bad-tempered woman, and according to the evidence of one of the witnesses, a lazy woman. On this occasion prisoner complained that she had not got his meal ready for him, and then they got into a quarrel which lasted for some time. According to his state-

ment he threatened her with a bamboo pole which apparently was handy in the room, and then she bit his thumb. (Prisoner's thumb was bound up.) There was only evidence of one blow on her person, and that blow unfortunately fell in a place where she was so to speak diseased. That blow caused her death under the circumstances mentioned by the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General had very properly said the Court might be lenient with him, and he agreed with him, and would therefore sentence prisoner only to a short term of imprisonment. Still people like him must learn they must not take bamboo poles and strike women or anybody else with them. Through giving way to temper he had the death of this woman on his mind. The sentence of the Court upon him was that he be imprisoned for six months with hard labour.

ANOTHER MANSLAUGHTER CASE.

Chung Lok and Cheung Mui were indicted for the manslaughter of another man named Li Sang.

First prisoner said he struck deceased, but not with the intention of killing him. It was done by accident. He struck deceased just one blow.

Second prisoner also pleaded guilty. He called his lordship's attention to the fact that the man had been sick for some time, and that his action was quite justifiable in returning the blow, but he had no intention of killing him.

His Lordship said the evidence in the depositions did not support the contention that second prisoner was acting in self-defence.

Second prisoner said that if there was no evidence of this in the depositions he must ask for permission to engage a solicitor to defend him.

His Lordship said the law was that if two people fought and one killed the other in the fight he was liable for manslaughter.

Second prisoner—I admit I struck him one blow and only one blow.

His Lordship—There is no doubt that the man died from the effects of the blows given to him on this occasion.

Second prisoner—I admit I gave him one blow and there were several other blows inflicted by several other persons.

His Lordship—He must make up his mind whether he pleads guilty or not.

Second prisoner—I am not willing to proceed with the case unless your lordship provides me with a solicitor or barrister.

His Lordship—Tell him I cannot supply him with a barrister or solicitor.

Second prisoner—I am a perfect stranger here and I am poor and I have no friends and cannot engage anyone.

His Lordship (to the interpreter)—Does he plead guilty or not?

Second prisoner—I admit I struck him and that in consequence of one blow he died.

His Lordship—Ask him if he pleads guilty or not guilty.

Second prisoner—I plead guilty.

His Lordship—They both understand that by pleading guilty they admit they had a part in causing the death of that man unlawfully.

On this being translated to them, the interpreter said they both replied they did it unintentionally. They tried to defend themselves. First prisoner said, "I struck him once," and the second said, "I struck him once, and in consequence of that he died."

His Lordship—Tell the first prisoner I will hear what he has to say in favour of the mitigation of the sentence.

First prisoner said—I arrived here on the 19th of September last, and on the morning of the 20th September deceased asked me to go to Perak. I refused to go with him and he struck me. Deceased was going himself and he asked me to go as well. I afterwards found out he was going to sell me at Perak as a pig or a slave and I refused to go and he gave me a blow. He forced me to go with him into a small boat and I got on board a steamer. I remained there for some time and then my elder brother—the other prisoner—came on board and found me there. He asked me to go on shore with him. While he was speaking to me, deceased came up and asked my brother to pay for my food and other expenses. Then my brother offered him 20 cents. He refused to accept it, demanding more, and then we had a quarrel. We came to blows. Deceased made a great noise and then he

seized hold of a piece of stick or something and struck my brother. I took the stick away from him and he gave me a kick on my foot. I then gave him one blow and ran away. I struck him on the right arm. I am a perfect stranger in the colony and I have no money to engage a solicitor, but I ask your lordship not to punish me severely but to pass a slight sentence upon me.

Second prisoner said—First prisoner arrived in Hongkong on the 19th September last. I was here on the 10th September. He came down here to look for me. On the 20th Sept. some one told me my brother was on board a steamer, I went down and found him. I asked him to come ashore with me and he did so. The next day I met deceased on the wharf. He asked me to pay him some money for food supplied to my brother. I asked my brother how much I should pay him. My brother said ten cents and also the price of one meal. I offered deceased 20 cents, but he refused to accept it and we had a quarrel. He struck me on the leg with some sharp instrument, so I tried to defend myself and struck him. If I had not done so he might have killed me. As I am a perfect stranger here and know nothing about the law of this colony I thought the officers would not interfere with me for fighting like that. I ask your lordship to deal with me leniently.

Mr. Pollock said it appeared from the medical evidence given at the Police Court that deceased was suffering from an enlarged and softened spleen. He thought there could be no doubt that on this occasion there was a general melee or scrimmage going on in which more than two people were engaged. So far as the prosecution were concerned in this case as in the last they did not suggest for one single moment that either of these men intended to cause the death of deceased, or that they used such a weapon as would be likely to cause the death of deceased. Perhaps in this case his lordship might be able to deal mercifully with the prisoners.

In answer to his lordship, second prisoner said there were five or six men attacking deceased.

His Lordship said he thought it was clear prisoners did not intend to cause the death of this man. They only intended to beat him. Some time before there had apparently been a quarrel in the street between them; but it was quite clear that prisoners and two or three other men set upon deceased and beat him. One of the prisoners struck him with an umbrella, and the other kicked him in the belly. He had no doubt it was that kick in the belly which caused his death. Deceased was suffering, it seemed, from an enlarged and softened spleen. His spleen was broken by the blow and death was caused in that way. The law said that although people might be diseased in that way other people were to keep their hands off them and not cause their death by violence. People of prisoners' class must learn that when they had a quarrel they must not set upon a man and beat him in this way. He thought this case was more serious than the last, and therefore prisoners must have a longer sentence, although he would not give them a very severe sentence. He could make no difference between them. He thought both were guilty. Therefore the sentence on each of them would be imprisonment for two years.

ROBBERY WITH ARMS AT KOWLOON.

Wong Kam Lin was indicted for robbery with arms at British Kowloon on the 17th August.

The following composed the jury:—Messrs. H. Ruttonjee (foreman), J. F. Waddell, W. Parlane, J. A. Gutierrez, C. T. Lee, A. C. Gutierrez, and G. M. Carvalho.

The Acting Attorney-General said prisoner in this case was charged with robbery on the 17th August of this year near Tung Kwa Wan in this colony. He was charged with robbery on two different counts. In the first count he was charged with having committed robbery, he being at the time armed with an offensive weapon, that was to say a revolver, and in the second count he was charged with robbing complainant in company with two or three other persons. The circumstances in this case were exceedingly simple. Complainant, Yan Chui Ku, was a doctor who lived on the first floor of 8, Second Street. On the 17th of August, at 11:45 a.m., he was

walking along the road at Tung Kwa Wan, which was on Kowloon Bay, when prisoner walked past him. Prisoner then turned round and pulled out a revolver and pointed it at him. Then complainant saw three other men running towards him. One of these three had a knife in his hand. The other two men were not armed so far as complainant saw. Prisoner then seemed to have come towards complainant and said, "I am going to rob you; throw your luggage away." Complainant was carrying in his hand a bundle of clothing. Complainant dropped his bundle on the road and one of the three men picked it up and made off with it. Another man took away his umbrella, and another of the three men—the man with the knife—took \$8 out of his girdle purse. All this time prisoner was covering him with a revolver. Prisoner said to the man with the knife, "Chop him," upon which complainant ran away. He subsequently reported the occurrence at Hung-hom Police Station, and on the 26th October he identified prisoner at Yau-mati Police Station.

The jury found prisoner guilty on both counts, and he was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and to receive 24 strokes with a birchrod within one week of his being sentenced.

21st November.

THE ALLEGED FORGERY OF A TELEGRAM.

Walter George Vaughan Robinson, of the Robinson Piano Company, Queen's Road Central, was indicted on the following counts:—

- 1.—Forging a telegram.
- 2.—Uttering a forged telegram.
- 3.—Transmitting by telegraph as a telegram a communication knowing the same to be not a telegram.
- 4.—Uttering as a telegram a communication knowing the same to be not a telegram.

The following composed the special jury:—Messrs. C. Beuermann G. C. Anderson, H. L. Dalrymple, N. A. Siebs, A. Denison, Thos. Arnold, and H. H. Kirch.

The Acting Attorney-General, Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown Solicitor) prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings), appeared for the defence.

On the indictment being read over to him, prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The Acting Attorney-General said defendant in this case was charged upon four different counts, and all those four counts were brought under Section 6 of Ordinance 14 of 1894. That was an Ordinance which was specially passed by the Legislative Council for this colony dealing with telegraphic messages. The section of the Ordinance under which these charges were laid ran as follows:—"Every person who forges or wilfully and without due authority alters a telegram or utters a telegram knowing the same to be forged, or wilfully and without due authority alters, or who transmits by telegraph as a telegram, or utters as a telegram, any message or communication which he knows to be not a telegram, shall, whether he had or had not an intent to defraud, be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$50, and, on conviction on information in the Supreme Court, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding 12 months." In the first count defendant was charged with forging the telegram in question, and it was important for the jury to bear in mind that it was expressly provided by this section that an offence of forgery should be considered to have been committed whether there was or was not an intent to defraud. He thought they would be satisfied that there was an intent to defraud in this case, but he would submit to them, subject to his lordship—of course they would take the law from his lordship and not from him—that it was not necessary as a matter of fact for the prosecution to prove in this case any intention of fraud. The second count was that defendant did wilfully without due authority utter this forged telegram—that was to say put it into circulation—and the third count charged defendant with transmitting by telegram a communication which he knew to be not a telegram; and the fourth count charged defendant with uttering as a telegram a communication which he knew to be not a telegram. The principal witness in

the case, although he thought they would find he was corroborated in very many important particulars by other witnesses, was a gentleman called Edwin Kliene, who was at the time this offence was committed employed as a clerk in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Mr. Kliene would tell them that on Friday, Oct. 7th, Mr. Ruchwaldy, a clerk in the employ of defendant, called at Mr. Kliene's office and had some conversation with him. In consequence of that conversation Kliene went over to Ruchwaldy's office at defendant's store. Kliene, however, did not see Ruchwaldy, but he saw defendant, whom he had never spoken to before. Defendant asked Kliene if he was Mr. Kliene. The latter said he was, and added that Springfield had left his house owing him money. Defendant replied that Springfield owed him money too, upon which Kliene went away. On the same evening, as Kliene was leaving the Hongkong Hotel, he met defendant, whom he told that he had just heard that Springfield had left Hongkong for Japan by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Riojun Maru*. Defendant replied, "I will go and see Mr. Deacon, my lawyer, the first thing to-morrow morning and try and get Springfield back." Kliene again saw defendant, who then told Kliene that it was too expensive a thing to get Springfield back in the ordinary way—that was to say, to send a constable up to fetch Springfield and pay Springfield's passage back and pay the expenses of the constable. Defendant added, "I shall have to think of some other way of getting Springfield back into the colony." Kliene next saw defendant on the following Monday, October 10th. He then had an interview with defendant in his shop in Queen's Road Central. Defendant asked Kliene to go to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha office to find out what name Springfield had gone away from the colony under and to ask if the Nippon Yusen Kaisha would accept a prepaid passage for Springfield's return to Hongkong, and also if they would wire their office at Kobe informing them of this arrangement as to the prepaid passage. Defendant at the same time suggested to Kliene that a telegram should be sent to Springfield as well. Kliene, acting on that suggestion, went and made arrangements with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and then returned to defendant's shop. On his return he found defendant with a letter in his hand. Defendant said he had received a letter from Springfield's wife and that she was anxious to come out to Hongkong. Defendant then dictated to Kliene the form of telegram to be sent to Springfield. Kliene took out of his pocket a book with a lot of leaves of paper stuck together which Kliene was in the habit of using in his business, borrowed a pencil from defendant, and took down certain words at the dictation of defendant. The words which Kliene wrote down at the dictation of defendant were set out in the information under which defendant was charged, with the slight addition of a few words. The words which were actually taken down by Kliene at defendant's dictation were:—"Springford, Clayton, *Riojun Maru*, Kobe. Wife cables coming. Return. Matters arranged. Emslie." The words "Apply passage Yusen" were afterwards added on the suggestion of the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Kliene would tell them in regard to the signature "Emslie" that defendant expressly suggested the name "Emslie," saying that by using Emsley's name Springfield would pay more attention to the telegram. Defendant would appear to have dictated the spelling of the name of Emsley to Kliene in the form "E-m-s-l-i-e," but the correct spelling was "E-m-s-l-e-y." Kliene seemed, not unnaturally perhaps they would think, to have made some objection when defendant proposed that this use should be made of Emsley's name, but defendant said in answer to that objection that as they were not spelling Emsley's name in the correct form there was no harm. For instance, defendant said to Kliene, "If anybody used the name Robinson or Robertson I could not object. I could not say anybody was using my name." It would appear that even after defendant had made use of that rather subtle argument Kliene was still uncertain whether it was right to use Emsley's name, even although it was not spelt in the correct manner, and it would appear that defendant then took up some book of reference, a book

which Kliene believed to be "Every man his own lawyer," and read out something to Kliene to the effect that punishment for fraud was £100 fine. Defendant also said to Kliene "This is not really fraud; no one is being defrauded of money or anything." That line of argument seemed to have satisfied Kliene, who took away the draft telegram and put it in his pocket. Before going on with defendant's further connection with this matter, he would just introduce a few words to tell them what Kliene did with the original draft of the telegram formulated by the defendant. As he had said, the words "Apply passage Yusen" were added by Kliene himself. Kliene got this original draft telegram which had been dictated by defendant and got it copied by a Portuguese clerk named Gutierrez in the Equitable Life Assurance Company's Office. That clerk made a copy of the telegram and handed it to Kliene, who destroyed the original draft. The telegram was afterwards sent to the Telegraph Office by a coolie with the money for the message, the name J. T. Smith, Stanley Street, being given at the foot as the sender, this being Kliene's idea; but the main body of the telegram, apart from the immaterial words "Apply passage Yusen," was dictated by defendant to Kliene. On the following afternoon—the afternoon of Tuesday, 11th October, which was the date when this telegram was sent off to Kobe—Kliene saw defendant in his shop, and defendant then handed to Kliene \$40 in bank notes, remarking "This money is to pay Springfield's passage," the arrangement being that defendant should pay Springfield's passage back to Hongkong and that Kliene should pay the cost of the telegram. Kliene, on receiving this money, took it straight to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha office and paid it to the manager, asking him to receive the money as a deposit on Springfield's passage. The manager took the money and gave a receipt for it; the receipt, at Kliene's request, being made out to "Robinson and Co." Kliene kept the receipt in his pocket for some days—he thought until the 24th October. On the 24th October the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mr. Mihara, sent a letter addressed to defendant's shop with reference to Springfield's return from Kobe. It would appear that the letter was duly delivered at defendant's shop. Defendant opened it and read it and put on the envelope the rather significant statement in pencil "Not for us; try Kliene." Of course it was suggested on the part of the Crown that that showed most fully that defendant knew that this telegram had been sent to Kobe to get Springfield back, that he was perfectly aware of all the circumstances of the case, and that he was a party to the sending of the telegram. On receiving the letter back Mr. Mihara sent a note to Kliene asking him to call at the office. Kliene called at the office and handed the receipt back. On the 27th October an occurrence took place which they might consider as somewhat significant. On that day defendant called at Kliene's office and wanted him to go the Nippon Yusen Kaisha office to tell the manager that he (defendant) had nothing at all to do with Springfield's return and that he had paid the passage money on his own account, but Kliene refused to go with defendant on such an errand. It would appear that later in the day defendant called at Kliene's office, but Kliene was out. Eventually, on the 30th October, Springfield arrived back by the steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, and found out that Emsley had not sent the telegram. Springfield did not content himself with lying down, so to speak, under this fraud which had been played upon him, but instructed his solicitor, Mr. Dennys, to write defendant on the subject, and this was done. On the 7th instant defendant was arrested by Inspector Moffat in his shop. The Inspector showed the warrant to defendant, who made use of the rather significant expression, "I suppose that damned Chinaman gave it away." Another point in connection with the case to which they might attach some importance was that in regard to this payment of \$40 paid by defendant to Kliene to pay for Springfield's return passage from Kobe, defendant did not tell his bookkeeper, Mr. Stokes, to make an entry of the payment of that sum of money until some few days afterwards—that was to say, the 17th October. It would also appear that defendant not only told Mr. Stokes to make an entry of a payment on that day,

but also told Mr. Stokes to make an entry of the money as if it had been paid on that day; but Stokes, who had seen some money pass between defendant and Kliene some days previously, mentioned the fact, whereupon defendant said, "Mr. Stokes, you should not have seen that." Though it was not defendant's hand, or even his coolie's hand, which wrote the telegram and sent it, the prosecution suggested that, taking all the facts of the case together, the jury must come to the conclusion that defendant was a party to the sending off of the telegram. That was to say he aided and abetted in the procuring, the sending, of the telegram and the uttering of the telegram. His lordship would direct them on the law of the case, but he might on the question of abetting and procuring refer them to section 7 of Ordinance 5 of 1865, which said:—"Whoever shall aid, abet, counsel, or procure the commission of any misdemeanour, whether the same be a misdemeanour at common law or by virtue of any Ordinance passed or to be passed, shall be liable to be indicted, tried and punished as the principal offender." After quoting from a legal authority as to forgery, Mr. Pollock concluded by submitting that defendant was guilty of the offence with which he was charged.

Edwin Kliene repeated the evidence given by him at the Magistracy, and was again submitted to a lengthy cross-examination by Mr. Francis. He said it was not he who proposed to Mr. Robinson, but Mr. Robinson to him, this method of getting the man into the colony by sending him a false document. It was he and not Mr. Robinson who hesitated about doing this and who did not think it was right to do it. It was not he who suggested to Robinson that Emsley's name would be the best to put on the telegram. He did not go to Robinson and ask him for a loan of \$40 as he was short of money.

The case was adjourned until the next day.

22nd November.

The witness Kliene was recalled at the request of Mr. Francis.

Mr. Francis—You saw defendant, you say, and got this \$40 from him on Tuesday, October 11th.

Witness—Yes.

It was on that day you sent the telegram?—Yes.

When did you next see him?—On the 24th.

Did you not see him between the Tuesday and the 24th?—I do not think I did.

You never went and told him you had sent the telegram and paid the money?—I do not know whether I did or not. I might have done, but I cannot positively remember that I did.

Did not you see him on the Thursday after the Tuesday; that is Thursday, the 13th, and tell him you had sent the telegram away?—I may have done.

Did you or did you not?—I am not positive.

Did you not tell him on that day, in answer to his question, that you had not put Emsley's name on the telegram but the name of Smith?—No, I never said that.

What is it you did say?—I don't remember having seen him at all. If I did see him it would only be to tell him the telegram had been despatched.

But did you go and tell him the telegram had been despatched?—That is where I am not quite positive.

Can you tell us whether you went in and out of his store several times between Tuesday, Oct. 11th, and the 24th?—No, I was not there several times.

May not you have been there once?—Yes.

Was not that once on Thursday, the 13th?—I cannot positively say.

Why?—Because I don't remember.

By the Court—The arrangement was that defendant was to pay the cost of the telegram to the shipping agents at Kobe and the passage money. It turned out that the cost of the telegram and the passage came to more than \$40. There was a balance of \$6.01, which I paid myself.

Mr. Beck, local acting manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, gave evidence as to the receipt of the telegram at the office for transmission to Springford at Kobe.

Mr. Mihara, local manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, repeated his evidence as to the booking of Springford's passage from Kobe to Hongkong and the arrangement as to his wiring to their agent at Kobe. The receipt

was made out in the name of Robinson and Company. Some time after Clayton came from Hongkong Mr. Robinson called at their office, he understood, and the name "Robinson and Co." on the counterfoil was crossed out and that of "E. Kliene" inserted. He got the deposit receipt back on October 24th, after he had received a telegram from Kobe saying that Springford was coming back by the *Hiroshima Maru*. The \$40 was not sufficient to pay for the passage and the telegram to their agent at Kobe, and on October 24th Kliene paid the balance—\$6.01—by a compradore's order. Defendant saw him early in November, just before he was arrested, and said his name had been inserted in the receipt without his authority.

By Mr. Francis—He was quite sure the money was paid on the 11th and that he gave Kliene the receipt at the same time. When Kliene came on Oct. 24th to pay the \$6.01 he said nothing about Robinson or the Robinson Piano Company. When defendant saw him about this receipt he said Mr. Kliene had been using their name and he had no authority for doing so and that he was going to see Mr. Kliene about it. This might have taken place on Oct. 27th, as he had no recollection.

Francis William Stokes, bookkeeper for the Robinson Piano Company, said he remembered money in the form of notes passing from Robinson to Kliene. He had no distinct recollection of the date, but as near as he could recollect it was somewhere about the 13th of October. Subsequently, on the 17th, he made an entry of the transaction in the cash book of the firm. Defendant told him to make an entry of a loan of \$40 to Mr. Kliene's debit. Defendant questioned him as to whether he remembered any amounts which had been paid away. He mentioned two or three, amongst them the money he had seen handed to Mr. Kliene, and defendant said, "Oh, you should not have seen that," and added that he already had a note of it in his private memorandum book. On the same date on which he made the entry a letter came from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha addressed to the Robinson Piano Company. He opened it in the ordinary course of business. The press copy of the letter he had in his hand was the same, but he saw that this was dated October 24th, and he must have made a mistake.

By Mr. Francis—The money was paid to Kliene by Robinson quite openly. He was in the store on the day Robinson was arrested. He remembered Inspector Moffat coming in. He remembered Mr. Robinson saying, "This is a lively business," or something to that effect, but he did not hear anything else. Afterwards he saw Mr. Robinson write a note which he, as the boy was out, was asked to take to Messrs. Deacon and Hastings.

Tome Kiohi Kawaguchi, cashier at the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, said—The deposit receipt produced for \$40 is in my handwriting, as is also the counterfoil of the receipt. I gave the receipt to Mr. Kliene and made it out in the name of Messrs. Robinson and Company. Mr. Kliene gave me that name. Originally the counterfoil was made out in the name of Robinson and Company, but that name has been crossed out and the name of E. Kliene inserted. Two or three days after the *Hiroshima Maru* left Kobe a gentleman whom one of the clerks told me was Mr. Robinson called at the office and said he wanted to see the receipt. I handed it over to Mr. Robinson, who then said the amount was paid out of Mr. Kliene's pocket and that Mr. Kliene's name must be put on the counterfoil, so I crossed out the name on the counterfoil and put in the name of Mr. Kliene. He also said he wanted the receipt to show to Kliene to get him to alter the name. I gave him the receipt and he took it away with him, saying that as soon as the matter was finished he would send back the receipt. He, however, did not send it back. So far as I can recollect that was the only time I saw Mr. Robinson in our office. So far as I recollect the *Hiroshima Maru* had not yet arrived at Hongkong.

By Mr. Francis—The money was received on the same day the receipt was dated.

George Springford, recently in the employ of defendant at the Robinson Piano Company at Hongkong, said he left on Oct. 5th as he and Mr. Robinson did not get on well together. Mr. Robinson stopped a portion of his pay. He

stopped it partly for money advanced and he was also going to stop \$15 a month for his passage from England to Hongkong. His salary was the equivalent of £13. Mr. Robinson paid him \$90 for September instead of the equivalent in dollars of £13 sterling. He left for Kobe in the *Riojun Maru* on Oct. 7th. He went away in the name of Clayton, because he thought that if Mr. Robinson knew he was going he would endeavour to stop him. He arrived at Kobe on the 14th and the telegram produced was handed to him by the agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at Kobe. It was signed "Emsley," the name of a recent employe of the Robinson Piano Company, said that his wife was coming out to Hongkong, and asked him to return. In consequence of his receiving this telegram and finding that his passage had been prepaid in advance, he returned to Hongkong by the *Hiroshima Maru* to find that Mr. Emsley had had nothing to do with the sending of the telegram.

Witness was shortly cross-examined by Mr. Francis.

Benjamin Emsley, formerly in the employ of defendant as a piano tuner, denied having sent the telegram which Springford received and to which his name was appended.

By Mr. Francis—I entered Mr. Robinson's employ on the 16th March, 1897. I engaged for three years. He dismissed me, alleging wilful misconduct and neglect of duty. That I am disputing. Mr. Robinson had only complained of misconduct quite recently. I never knew Mr. Springford until he came here. I took his passage for him to Japan because he asked me. He asked me at the house of a mutual friend—Mr. Margelin. Springford had complained to me about Mr. Robinson almost every day we were together. He knew I was leaving Mr. Robinson. I did not know Springford was leaving for Japan until half-past four on the afternoon of the 6th October. I did not pay his passage or help him in any way with money. I have been intimately acquainted with Mr. Springford since he came to Hongkong. I have had conversations with Mr. Springford almost everyday since his return to the colony. I was formally engaged by Lane and Crawfords on the 11th October. I commenced this prosecution partly in the interests of public justice and partly to clear my name. Mr. Springford believed me when I told him I had not sent the telegram. I first saw a solicitor in connection with these proceedings on the 31st October.

Inspector Moffat gave evidence as to his arresting defendant in his shop, by virtue of the warrant produced, at half-past three on Monday afternoon, November 7th. After reading the warrant defendant said, "damned annoying; too absurd. Must I go now." Witness said "As soon as possible; you can finish your letter and put things a bit straight." He appeared to be writing a letter at the time. Defendant asked to see his solicitor, but witness told him he could not wait until he consulted with his solicitor. Defendant then commenced to write a note. After writing three or four words he scored a word out and said, "I suppose it's that damned Chinaman who gave it away." Defendant subsequently accompanied him to the Central Police Station and was afterwards let out on bail.

By Mr. Francis—I did not see anyone in the store besides Mr. Farmer, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Stokes. I did not see anyone at a typewriter near Mr. Robinson. Mr. Robinson did not call out for a coolie or a boy. He called out to Mr. Stokes only. He did not say in consequence of the boy not turning up, "That damned Chinaman is always away." I had never seen Mr. Emsley nor Mr. Springford until after the arrest. I did not see the contents of the note which Mr. Robinson gave to Mr. Stokes. I did not know a man named Cavanagh until the evening of the 7th. I was sent by the Captain Superintendent of Police to see him on some other business. I am quite certain I did not see Cavanagh in the store when I went to arrest defendant. It is possible he may have been behind some of the pianos there.

On the conclusion of the case for the prosecution the question arose as to whether the hearing should continue or should be adjourned until the following morning.

Upon this the foreman of the jury said the jury were prepared to give their verdict then.

His Lordship said he took it that their verdict was in favour of defendant.

The Foreman said yes.

The Acting Attorney-General said it was an unusual proceeding.

His Lordship remarked that the jury had made up their minds and defendant would be discharged.

Defendant was discharged accordingly.

PERFORMANCE BY THE HONGKONG A.D.C.

At the Theatre Royal on Thursday night the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club presented a "triple bill," which was divided between drama, comedy, and farce. A very fair audience assembled and the performance, though not one of the A.D.C.'s most ambitious efforts, gave evident satisfaction. The feature of the evening was the admirable acting of Mrs. Bagnall-Wild, both in the comedietta and farce.

The first piece presented was "Our Bitterest Foe," a one act drama, by G. C. Herbert, representing an incident of 1870. The characters were as follows:—

General von Rosenberg, a Prussian Commander
Mr. C. H. Grace
Henri de la Fère, an officer in the French Army
Capt. Burney, R.A.

Blanche D'Evran, his cousin Mrs. C. H. Grace
The scene is laid in the Chateau de la Fère, which is in the occupation of the Prussians, and the incident turns on the affection conceived by General von Rosenberg for Blanche D'Evran, who is engaged to her cousin, the owner of the chateau. Henri de la Fère appears disguised as a peasant and is discovered by the General, who has formed a wrong estimate of his character and treats him with contempt, only refraining from condemning him to the usual fate of a spy out of regard for the young lady. De la Fère, however, resents the contempt, the General discovers the error he has made in regard to his character, generously surrenders his love, and gives the young people a pass through the lines. The plot is improbable and the dialogue melodramatic, but the acting of all three characters was good. Mr. C. H. Grace with his fine presence and intimate knowledge of stage business made an excellent General; Captain Burney showed some dramatic power in the passage in which he defies von Rosenberg; and Mrs. Grace acted with feeling in the part of Blanche.

The second piece was "Sugar and Cream," a comedietta in one act, by James P. Hurst. The characters were:—

Mr. Wentworth Mr. R. K. Bagnall-Wild, R.E.
Frank (his son) Mr. E. F. Shewell, R.A.
Mrs. Mirfield (a young widow) Mrs. R. K. Bagnall-Wild.
Spruce (her maid) Mrs. C. H. Grace.

Mr. Wentworth, a widower, and his son Frank are more like brothers than father and son, and treat each other with considerable familiarity. The old gentleman thinks it time his son was married and, having arranged a meeting with Mrs. Mirfield, gives him strict injunctions that he is to propose that very day. He has paved the way by writing a letter to the lady, which, however, is couched in such ambiguous terms that it might be taken for a proposal on his own behalf. Frank, being shown this letter by Mrs. Mirfield, resolves to play a trick on his father by treating it in that sense, and the lady, wishing to arouse a little jealousy in Frank, also thinks fit to accept that reading for the time being, so that when Mr. Wentworth reappears he is claimed as the lover, and though not at all inclined for a second matrimonial venture, finds himself unable to altogether resist the lady's blandishments. Frank, who is really in love, thinks that his joke is becoming serious and begins to experience the feeling Mrs. Mirfield wished to arouse in him, but in the end the affair is straightened out and the young people receive the father's blessing. Mrs. Bagnall-Wild gave a clever and humorous rendering of the part of Mrs. Mirfield and was repeatedly applauded. Mr. Bagnall-Wild made an excellent Mr. Wentworth, at one time declaring that he was as young as the best of them and at another that he could not think of marrying at his time of life. Mr. Shewell was also capital in the part of Frank, and the more credit is due to him inasmuch as he took the part at short notice in the place of another gentleman who was prevented from playing by indisposition. Mrs. Grace played the part of the maid with much archness.

The third piece was "The Steeple Chase," a farce in one act, by John Maddison Morton, the cast being as follows:—

Mr. Tittums Mr. G. C. Loxon
Alderman Slowcoach Mr. E. P. W. Skrimshire
Dr. Clipper Mr. R. K. Bagnall-Wild, R.E.
Bazzard (a Sheriff's officer) Mr. H. W. Bird
Cummings Mr. A. Bannerman, R.E.
Thomas Mr. J. F. Noble
Boots Mr. E. F. Shewell, R.A.
Mrs. Clipper (niece to the Alderman) Mrs. C. H. Grace
Mrs. Tittums Mrs. R. K. Bagnall-Wild

The scene is laid in an inn at Southampton, where Mr. Tittums is awaiting the arrival of his wife by steamer. He has the misfortune, however, to find on getting up in the morning that his clothes have been stolen or have gone astray during the night, and without his clothes he cannot well go to the wharf to meet his better half. Seeing a port-manteau he takes the liberty of borrowing the contents, which prove to be a jockey's outfit belonging to Dr. Clipper, a sporting medico who has come down to ride in a steeple chase. This gentleman has eloped with Alderman Slowcoach's niece and is in hopes of making his peace with the uncle. He finds, however, that Bazzard, a Sheriff's officer, is at the inn lying in wait for him. Bazzard, to induce Clipper to walk into a trap, represents himself as the Alderman, while Clipper, having discovered the plot, makes Mr. Tittums assume his name for the time being in consideration of not being given into custody for the theft of the clothing. The result is a most amusing mixing up of the characters and a general confusion which kept the audience in almost continual laughter.

Mr. Loxon is an acquisition to our local stage and his acting on Thursday raises pleasant anticipations of his appearance in the forthcoming pantomime, in which, we understand, he will have a leading part. He gave a very amusing representation of Mr. Tittums, the old Cockney gentleman who did not know what getting into the pigskin meant, but had to receive detailed instructions from Dr. Clipper as to how he was to ride a race; and ride he did, and won. Mr. Skrimshire was effective as the prosperous old tallowchandler, Alderman Slowcoach, and brought out all the many good points the part afforded. Mr. Bagnall-Wild had not such good opportunities in the part of Dr. Clipper as he had in the previous piece, but he made the most of the business that fell to his share. Mr. Bird was excellent as the "boozy" Sheriff's officer, and the parts of Cummings, Thomas, and Boots were all capably filled. The ladies have not very much to do in the piece, but Mrs. Bagnall-Wild gave a typical rendering of an old lady's part, and Mrs. Grace made a pleasant appearance as Mrs. Clipper.

Mr. H. C. Nicolle was acting manager, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell stage manager.

By kind permission of Colonel Rowlandson and Officers, the Band of the King's Own Regiment was present and played during the intervals.

The alterations that have been effected in the theatre were generally commented upon with approval on Thursday evening. The dress circle has been brought forward, considerably increasing the seating accommodation, and the tiers have been rearranged and made more easily accessible. The steps leading to the gangways are, however, too narrow for the width of the latter, and any one on leaving might easily step over a small precipice at the sides, receiving an unpleasant shaking and possibly a sprain or fracture.

Every available seat in the Theatre Royal was again occupied on Saturday evening, on the occasion of the performance by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club, H.E. the Acting Governor and the Chief Justice (Sir J. W. Carrington) being among those present. The whole affair was again a large success. The acting was unanimously voted to be admirable, one and all being loud in their praises of the histrionic abilities of the performers.

The U.S. gunboat *Petrel* arrived at Shanghai on the 12th November from Faku. Her entrance into the harbour was greeted by the other vessels with cheers. She is expected to stay there about a month, during which time considerable repairs will be done to the machinery, etc.

THE CANTON ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

Passengers to Canton may see, about a mile below the Dutch Folly Fort, a building in foreign style with a smoke stack, now in course of erection and approaching completion. This is the station of the Canton Electric Co., the shareholders of which are mostly Canton officials and Hongkong merchants. The current is to be generated by three large dynamos and engines supplied by Messrs. Johnson and Phillips, of London, the makers of the Hongkong Electric Company's machinery, the engines being supplied with steam from one multitubular boiler and three large Babcock and Wilcox boilers. The wires are to be carried through the city on brackets attached to the walls, and one wire is to be carried on to Shameen, permission having been obtained from the Consuls and Municipal Councils to carry this on poles. Two other wires going into the city can also be carried on to Shameen, so that in case of an accident to one there will be two others to rely upon. The light is to be used for street illumination in the city, and the applications for private installations have been so numerous that already the duplication of the plant is under consideration. The whole of the work is being carried out from the designs and under the supervision of Mr. W. Danby, Mr. W. H. Wickham being the consulting electrical engineer. It is expected that the concern will be in operation in about four months' time.

NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

A NEW FACTION IN THE REPUBLICA FILIPINA.

A new faction has been slowly but surely developing along careful lines for several weeks past. The deposed Artacheo is mentioned as the figurehead, with Spanish influence as a backing. The majority of Spaniards seem to have abandoned their outward aggressiveness and resigned themselves to fate; but there are some moving energetic spirits who keep the flame alive and lose no opportunity to cause discussion. Artacheo stock that has so long lain dormant, is rising again. It was pretty generally believed that he had been shot by Aguinaldo's orders shortly after he arrived at Cavite last June. It was definitely known that he was imprisoned. No one has seen him for months and when the rebel leaders are questioned they deny that he has been done away with, but say that he is merely being detained until it is deemed safe to give him liberty. Artacheo will be remembered as the leader who was left in Manila to arrange the final terms and money affairs with the Spaniards when Aguinaldo and the others had gone abroad, agreeing not to return again if all the Spanish obligations had been carried out. He represented a very strong faction and was Aguinaldo's greatest rival. Later, when he came to Hongkong, he and the General quarreled, with the result that the \$400,000 then in the bank to the credit of the leaders was tied up by an embargo levied at Artacheo's complaint. Sandico, also known in Hongkong, brought about a reconciliation, but jealousy never ceased to exist. We may expect to see developments in the near future.

The provinces of Pangasinan and south Ilocos, north of Manila, are the centres of considerable discontent. They have had representatives at Malolos for the past week pleading their cases. Some weeks ago, while one of the military expeditions was passing through these provinces, it became necessary to seize the buffaloes and several ponies for transportation. Promises were made to return them all and make good for those that were lost, but up to date the owners claim they have not seen them. The time is approaching for taking in the crops and plowing the fields and without the ever useful water buffalo the districts will suffer heavily.

THE "BUENOS AIRES" DEPARTS FOR SPAIN.

The Spanish transport *Buenos Aires* has sailed for Iloilo and Spain, carrying 769 Spaniards, sick and prisoners, as well as a great number of officers. The scene at the dock was a peculiar

one. Men gathered with all their belongings about them who had fought for months in this "island paradise," who had come here in all the pride of their nation in gaily decorated ships and landed with bands playing and Spanish flags flying from every available point. How different the departure! All quiet and unostentatious; not a banner of their defeated country to be seen; and those who were left behind remained only because they could not secure passage. For months past many Spanish families have been living at the Hotel de Oriente without meeting their expenses. When the proprietor heard of the intended sailing of the *Buenos Aires* he called on the American authorities and lodged a complaint. It is understood that measures were taken causing all bills to be paid before they were allowed to depart.

MORE AMERICAN TROOPS COMING.

It is generally understood that 7,000 troops are en route for the Philippines, having left San Francisco about October 22nd. Inquiry at headquarters did not produce any information. The existence of the expedition was not admitted, but information has been received that places the matter almost beyond doubt. Preparations are going on for the accommodation of a large number of men, and this lends light to the question. The transport *Indiana* left San Francisco on October 17th and the *Ohio* on October 22nd; they are both expected in a few days. Last night it was reported that two transports had arrived, but enquiry at the office of the Captain of the Port did not confirm the news.

AFFAIRS AT ILOILO.

Many complaints are heard concerning the port regulations and condition of affairs at Iloilo. Before the U. S. cruiser *Charleston* returns to Manila she will probably straighten out all these troubles and arrange everything satisfactorily in the southern islands. Major Bell and assistants of the Bureau of Information have gone to Iloilo and will work in conjunction with the navy.

SPANISH DEFEAT IN THE SOUTH.

News from private sources and thoroughly reliable has just been received from Iloilo to the following effect:—

"The Spanish Governor of Iloilo has petitioned the *Charleston* to remain in the harbour, as he is utterly unable to protect his own people and the foreign residents.

Iloilo is completely surrounded and at the mercy of the insurgents. These rebels declare that they are not anxious for any connection with Aguinaldo, but are fighting to rid themselves of Spanish rule. When the enemy has been driven out they will gladly welcome the Americans if they are guaranteed some sort of fair government and protection.

In Negros the insurgents have met with great success, capturing and disarming 1,000 Spaniards. Later they allowed the prisoners to join their countrymen at Iloilo.

Capiz and Panay are likewise in the hands of the conquering insurgents, who are disarming Spaniards everywhere, but treating them with all consideration.

THE LOSS OF THE STEAMER "ACTIV."

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tamsui, 16th November.

The Danish steamer *Activ*, Capt. Hansen master, lies a total wreck two hundred yards off the shore near Tamsui, Formosa. The summer has been a very severe one for shipping and the *Activ* is the fourth wreck. The steamer *Enoshima Maru* at Kelung, the steamer *Russan Maru* at Tamsui, and the bark *Comet* at Aulang being the others.

The *Activ*, while endeavouring to reach an anchorage outside Tamsui bar, and with the green light in view, skirted along the shore waiting for the white light to put in its appearance. It was after eight in the evening, and owing to rain, the shore could not be seen. The lead was kept in constant use and gave with 12 fathoms out, according to an officer's report, no bottom. At 8.20, to the consternation of those on deck, a rugged line of rocks burst into view on the starboard and instantly the vessel grounded slightly. Full speed astern was given but the vessel swung round striking the rocks heavily amidships, and breaking a large hole in the bottom near the engine room.

The vessel was now found to be filling fast and the pumps, on being used, had no visible effect on the water which was rushing in and rapidly filling the vessel. The ballast tanks were filled to steady the ship and boats were lowered ready to carry the crew ashore if it should be necessary to leave the ship. During the night a gun was fired and distress signals shown, but without succeeding in attracting the attention of the Japanese in the port, about a mile or so distant. The cargo consisted of 700 tons of beans and bean cake, dried fish, etc., and the former commenced to swell and by early morning the decks were bursting. One boat with a foreigner, some Chinese, and the compradores was now sent off and succeeded in crossing the bar safely and entering the inner harbour. The first boat encountered was a sampan with the Chinese pilot aboard, who, with the innocence of his race, cried out that he had seen their signal and wanted to know if they were not signalling for a pilot.

The captain and second officer left the ship last in a small boat, but upon reaching the entrance were unable to make their way in and were in the danger of being swept out to sea when a Japanese launch came to their rescue and they were brought in safely. The crew, all of whom were saved, consisted of five foreigners and 23 Chinese and there were four compradores on board. The steamer is of course a total loss and is to be sold by public auction on the 19th inst. Her last port was Chefoo and she carried cargo for Tamsui and Amoy, all owned by Chinese.

THE BRIBERY CASE.

At the Magistracy on 18th Nov., before Commander Hastings, Frederick Howard Kew and Lo Wing, in the employ of the Sanitary Board, were charged on remand with attempting to obtain a bribe of \$15 from Au Ping Kwan, of 157, Hollywood Road. They are also to be charged with attempting to obtain a bribe of \$20 from Tang Chan, 146, Hollywood Road.

Mr. Francis (instructed by Mr. Grist) appeared for Kew.

The cross-examination of the witnesses for the prosecution took place.

Dr. Clark, in reply to Mr. Francis, said—In addition to Mr. Kew in the room of which I hold a plan in my hand there is another clerk, Mr. Remedios. The two men sit back to back. My desk is opposite the door leading into Kew's room. I generally arrive at the office at nine o'clock and leave at half-past four. I reached the office at nine o'clock on Monday morning. I was there until half-past ten, when I went out. I was out about an hour. I know the second defendant. He was the office messenger, and it is his business to be in the lobby from nine to half-past four. His duty is to carry messages within the office. He cannot be absent during office hours without my knowing it. Constantly during the day I am sending messages here and there. Chau King, who gave evidence yesterday, is an out-door messenger. His place is in the corridor where the other messenger is. Second defendant was not absent on Monday at any time when I was in the office. Kew came to the office on the first of August last. He joined as acting clerk. I described him the other day as acting chief clerk. In a sense he has taken Mr. McCallum's place, but he has not his power. When Mr. Kew was appointed a senior clerk named Pang was on leave. He has been in the office for 16 years. He was a sort of confidential clerk to the late Mr. McCallum. Pang returned from leave on the 4th of this month. Since his return he has expressed a hope that he will get an increase of pay in view of possible changes. When he returned he had some dispute with Mr. Kew as to their respective duties and as to which was the senior. He acted as if he thought he was or ought to be the senior. Within the last ten days there have been no complaints against either of the two bakers mentioned in the case. If the inspector found a place dirty it was his duty to warn the owner that he was liable to be summoned, but if he found the place clean the next day no action was taken. Remedios and Kew sat within six feet of each other. Remedios speaks Chinese. He is an interpreter. Nothing could be said to Kew without Remedios hearing. Kew sits with his back to the ordinary entrance and Remedios with his

face towards it. Pang has asked me if his services were going to be retained in the office. About 18 months ago a suggestion was made that it would be better to remove Pang to another department. The suggestion was made in connection with the bribery trouble. Pang sits in the next office opening into Kew's room. Our rooms are separated by open doors, so that Pang would be cognisant of Kew's movements.

In reply to Mr. May, witness said the clerk's office hours were from ten to four.

Lau Fan, a baker employed in the Kwong Hing Bakery at 157, Hollywood Road, said, in reply to Mr. Francis—I had previously been employed at Lane & Crawford's. The actual making of the bread takes place in our shop a little further in than the counter. The place is not partitioned off. Three men are engaged. We commence at about nine o'clock in the morning and work sometimes until 12 o'clock at night and sometimes until ten o'clock. Au Kwong, the accountant, sits at the counter. I am paid \$4 a month. I saw second defendant at our shop on the 12th instant. I have seen him there several times before but I forget the dates. I don't know his name. I don't know whether he brought a chit or not as he spoke to the master. I don't know what he said. I last went to my village on the third moon. The old messenger had also been often at our shop before. I have never at any time heard what they said. I have never been to the Sanitary Board's office myself. I left Lane & Crawford's because of the amount of labour. I was paid \$7 and found my own food. I left of my own accord. I was not discharged because I was lazy. Second defendant also came to our shop on Monday morning at half-past ten. The master was at home. Second defendant remained talking with him for a little more than five minutes.

Answering Mr. Francis, Au Ping Kwan, master of the bakery at 157, Hollywood Road, said—I have been master of the shop since the eighth moon of last year. I did not take out a license and I have not got one. I am registered at the Registrar-General's office as the occupant of the shop. The inspector comes occasionally to inspect my bakery. Before the 29th of October he came very often. Since then he has been several times. The last time he was in my shop was on the 15th November. I was not in at the time. The last time I saw the Inspector in my shop was on the 11th instant at about eight o'clock in the morning. He was also in the shop on the 8th November, when he said the place was dirty. I did not speak to him, but he said the baking tins were dirty. The interpreter was with him. Since I commenced business as a baker I have been to the Sanitary Office about five times altogether, including the 8th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of this month. I swore an information against prisoners on the 14th instant. When I went upstairs at the Sanitary Office on the 8th instant I saw Lo Wing, the second defendant. I had never seen him before, nor had I seen the messenger who told me to come to the Sanitary Office before. First defendant was alone when second defendant took me into the room with him. I had never seen first defendant before. I did not see or speak to the first defendant when I went to the Sanitary Office on the 14th. No European spoke to me. At 10 a.m. on Monday Lo Wing called at my shop and told me to come to the Sanitary Office. I know where the Kong Tai Chang is, but I don't know what it is. When I went there I asked if the clerk in the Sanitary Office was there and I was told that he had just gone downstairs. Phillips said he was going to summon us and I went to the police station and complained about it. I denied that my tins were dirty, as Phillips had said. I spoke to Mr. Hanson at the Police Station. No clerk from the Sanitary Office came to my shop to make enquiries about this matter. Yesterday I said Lo Wing came to me and told me to put \$15 in an envelope, write what I liked on it, and take it to the Sanitary Office and give it to Kew and also give it to the inspector. I forgot to mention Kew's name yesterday. No one has since told me I had forgotten to mention Kew's name.

In reply to Mr. May, witness said—On the 14th inst. I saw Lo Wing and then I saw Kew. Kew had a pen or pencil in his hand. He pointed to Lo Wing and said, "Give the \$15 to him; that will do."

In answer to the Magistrate, witness said Lo Wing told him to take the \$15 to the Sanitary Office not later than 11 o'clock, adding that he must take it when all the inspectors were there, as it would be very awkward if he went when they had all gone.

The case was adjourned until Saturday, bail as before—\$1,000—being allowed.

ANOTHER APPLICATION FOR EXTRADITION.

A CHARGE OF THREATENING WITH INTENT TO EXTORT MONEY.

At the Magistracy on 21st Nov., before Commander Hastings, Mr. Robinson's application on behalf of the Chinese authorities for the extradition of Chung Shui Yeung (aged 41), alias Chung Kwok Chu, retired lawyer's clerk, of the village of Wong Tong, in the Sun On district was again heard, having been adjourned from the previous day. Prisoner is charged with threatening with intent to extort money within the jurisdiction of China in the middle of October. The other week he was charged with having committed burglary, along with some other men on the 16th of October at Tung Wo Hui Market Place, Cha Tan Kok, in the Sun On district, but this charge was dismissed, in consequence of the evidence of two German missionaries resident in the district. Mr. Gedge appeared for defendant.

The defendant having been identified in the usual manner in the gaol, Mr. Robinson was proceeding to open his case when Mr. Gedge interposed and said he would like to know for whom Mr. Robinson appeared. By whom was he instructed?

Mr. Robinson—I appear for the Chinese Government.

Mr. Gedge—But who are the Chinese Government?

His Worship said it was usual in a case of this sort for counsel to be engaged by the Chinese Government.

Mr. Robinson—I am instructed by an official in the Chinese Government.

Mr. Robinson said the charge laid against defendant was that on the 24th day of the eighth moon at Tai Chung village in the district of On Sun he made the following threat to a man of the name of Chung A Fat:—"Tell your master that I want \$3,000 from him to-morrow to be sent to Wong Long. If he does not send me the \$3,000 on the 25th I must have \$1,000 more for each of the following days. If your master does not send the money on the 30th day tell him to be careful."

Inspector Hansen was then called and said by virtue of a warrant produced he arrested the defendant at 3.30 p.m. on the 29th inst. at the Yan On Chan boarding house, Praya Central. In a trunk he found an envelope containing certain documents. Defendant said he was a naturalized Hawaiian subject and had his naturalization papers. Witness opened the box and found the papers.

Mr. Gedge—Before proceeding with the cross-examination of this witness I will ask your Worship to direct the learned counsel (Mr. Robinson) to give the name of the Chinese official who instructed him to appear in this case. I want to know the name of this man. "An official in the Chinese Government" is too vague.

In answer to his Worship Mr. Robinson gave the name of the official by whom he was instructed.

Mr. Gedge—What is he?

Mr. Robinson—I believe he is the second official at Kowloon city.

Mr. Gedge then proceeded with his cross-examination and in answer to his questions Inspector Hansen said he knew that the Chinese Government had offered a reward of \$2,000 for the arrest of defendant. His name headed a list of names posted at the Sun On Magistrate's Yamen of men who were "tabooed" as Triad Society men. The \$2,000 was to be paid for the arrest of defendant by the Chinese authorities for his connection with the Triad Society.

Re-examined by Mr. Robinson witness said that he had heard that the Triads had been committing lawless acts. Asked if he could say whether the district of Sun On was in a state of political rebellion in October or whether

the disturbance arose from pillage, witness said he understood the state to be rebellious. A week before he arrested defendant Lau Kin Chi applied to witness to arrest him in connection with the Triad Society. He had only heard of three crimes in the Sun On district lately.

In answer to his Worship witness said he did not at the time of the arrest know that there was a price on defendant's head.

Inspector Ford and a Chinese sergeant interpreter, who were on charge-room duty when defendant was brought in, gave formal evidence.

Cheung Yun Fat gave evidence to the effect that on the 23rd day of the eighth moon five men came to the Tai Cheong village and went to the house of witness's master, Chan Tai, who is a large landowner. Defendant was one of the men. Defendant said to witness, "Tell your master to send me \$3,000 on the 25th day. If he does not send it on the 25th day I shall want \$1,000 for the 26th and each of the following days. If he does not send it by the 30th tell him to be careful."

Witness was subjected to a long cross-examination by Mr. Gedge, in the course of which he stated that he was brought to Hongkong by two justices who told him he must say that. They did not threaten to cut his head off if he did not say what they told him, nor did they offer him money. They only promised to pay his expenses. They said to him, "You have said such things and you must go and say that." He had heard that \$3,000 had been offered for defendant, but witness was to have no share of it. No threats were used to anyone when defendant asked witness to ask his master for the \$3,000, except that he said, "If your master does not send the money tell him to be careful."

The case was concluded at six o'clock, when his worship, in view of the outcome of the burglary case and the unsupported evidence in this case, discharged the defendant.

THE FORMOSA CAMPHOR TRADE.

In his report upon the trade of Tainan for the year 1897, Mr. Consul Griffiths contributes a very interesting article upon camphor. He writes: "The camphor trade has, so far as concerns foreign merchants in South Formosa, almost entirely stopped, owing, among other causes, to the disturbed state of the country and the difficulty and danger of sending money into the camphor districts. The roads continued throughout the year to be infested with armed robbers, who, on approach of the military or police fled to the hills (where it was, apparently, impossible to pursue them) only to reappear at the first favourable opportunity. Robberies became of such frequent occurrence that no foreign or native merchant would venture to send money into the interior. The Japanese authorities on their part did not see their way to allow the tax to be paid in the treaty port on arrival of the camphor, and business was consequently brought to a standstill. In the raids and skirmishes, too, which have taken place in the camphor-producing districts numbers of stills have been destroyed. Their destruction was perhaps inevitable, but as they were almost entirely erected with money advanced or loaned by foreign merchants in South Formosa, the losses incurred by the latter have been very considerable. It is estimated that not one-third of the stills in existence two years ago, in which foreigners in South Formosa are interested, are now available for camphor production. The hope expressed by Her Majesty's Consul in last year's report on the trade of this district, that the camphor trade might revive and assume large proportions, has not been realised; in fact far from this being the case, the camphor export business, as far as South Formosa is concerned has now (April 1898) almost stopped. The following table shows the export of camphor from this port since, practically, the commencement of the trade.

1892	...	...	4,315 piculs.
1893	...	...	6,691 "
1894	...	...	12,157 "
1895	...	...	10,145 "
1896	...	...	8,001 "
1897	...	...	3,057 "

The export at end of June this year is 730 piculs, since when shipments have absolutely stopped.

Mr. Griffiths attributes the stoppage "among other causes" to the disturbed state of the country, but it is well-known that from the day the Japanese set foot in the island, the camphor trade of Mid-Formosa was doomed.

Foreigners were immediately restricted and such difficulties heaped upon them by the subordinate officials that in spite of remonstrances on the part of the British and German Consuls, and even the Ministers in Tokyo, work in the interior had to be abandoned. The Chinese workers, many of them, were actual witnesses of the arbitrary and overbearing conduct of the officials towards the few foreigners who were journeying from place to place endeavouring to conform to the ever-changing rules and regulations. Foreign compradores were arrested and their account books seized. It is not to be wondered that these workers were quick to realise the position of affairs. Advances were repudiated, and the rebellion in 1896 brought matters to a climax. The camphor trade was practically finished. Owing to the difficulty of transporting funds into the interior, it will be seen that the Consul approached the authorities with the view of allowing the tax to be paid at the treaty port. This, it appears, would have been of great benefit to the foreign merchant, particularly when it is explained that the tax could not be paid at the camphor centres, Hunlin and Chip-Chip, but had, in the case of the latter depôt, to be sent to Polisia, a two days' journey, over a mountainous region, often inaccessible during the heavy rains. The authorities, it will be seen, declined to make any concession, clearly shewing their determination to discourage the foreigner. It is estimated that fully one hundred and fifty thousand dollars have been sacrificed over the camphor business by foreigners and Chinese and that this amount is irretrievably lost. Surely there are sufficient grounds to warrant a claim on the Japanese for compensation, or are the British and German Governments content to let the matter rest at the expense of their unfortunate nationals?

ANARCHY IN SOUTH FORMOSA.

Private advices from South Formosa report a deplorable state of affairs, the country, it appears, being practically in the hands of the robbers, who become more daring every day. The road between Tainan and Takow is now said to be unsafe, and it is doubtful if it would be prudent for the foreigners to venture beyond the city walls of Tainan. It is only ten days ago, says a correspondent, that the Japanese postmaster at Takow was shot dead on his way to Akontiam. The sad event cast quite a gloom over the settlement, where he was very popular both with his own countrymen and the foreign community. Cases of this kind are of frequent occurrence, the police and gendarmes, being the principal victims. Compelled to travel alone or in small parties about the country, they are easily picked off by the banditti, who are generally in hiding, waiting for the solitary traveller. They are too cowardly to meet the Japanese soldiers (who are occasionally sent out to scour the country) and scatter themselves in such a manner as to defy pursuit. Chinese are also attacked and robbed, and if the traveller is of any position he is carried off and held to ransom. Trade, in consequence, is paralyzed and, with the approach of the sugar season, merchants apprehend much difficulty in getting money into the country. A reign of terror may be said to exist in the districts away from official influence, where the robbers have full sway and exact contributions from the unfortunate people. It seems to be well known that in order to get produce to the coast the contractors will have during the coming season to submit to a tax, imposed by the banditti, in order to secure a safe conduct of their goods to the treaty ports.

On the 12th November a collision, fortunately of a slight nature, occurred at Shanghai. The Japanese steamer *Hinode Maru*, from Japan, on rounding, fouled the American sailer *W. H. Conner*, which was at her moorings. Several plates of the former were damaged also the headgear of the latter.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA'S AUSTRALIAN LINE.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Australian line was inaugurated in October, 1896, under mail contract with the Imperial Government of Japan, and a monthly service has been maintained since that day with the three steamers *Omi Maru*, *Yamashiro Maru*, and *Tokio Maru*, between Yokohama and Melbourne, via Kobe, Shimonoseki, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, and Sydney. The development of the trade on the line and the necessity to accommodate the ever-increasing passenger and freight traffic have given rise to the building of new steamers better fitted for the service. The three sister ships *Kasuga Maru*, *Yawata Maru*, and *Futami Maru*, each 3,500 tons gross, have thus been ordered and were built on the Clyde with the object of replacing those above cited. Among the three new steel steamers the *Kasuga Maru* is the pioneer steamer of the new service, and may justly be termed a splendid specimen of the latest maritime architecture. On 23rd Nov. she was in Victoria harbour while making her maiden voyage to Australia, and on the invitation of her owners she was visited by a large and representative company, who inspected her and were loud in their praises of her excellent appointments. Mr. Mihara, manager of the Hongkong branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Captain E. W. Haswell welcomed the visitors aboard, and were unremitting in their attentions to them. The vessel was gaily decorated for the occasion, and music, including selections from "The Mikado," was provided by the band of the Hongkong Regiment. The *Kasuga Maru* (a sketch of which is applicable to the other two vessels) was built under special survey to Lloyd's highest class, and fitted in accordance with the Japanese Government Rules, and British Board of Trade Regulations. The general dimensions are: Length, 375 ft.; breadth, 44 ft.; depth, 27.8 ft.; with a top-gallant forecastle, long bridge, full poop, and partial shade deck. She has a cellular double-bottom for water ballast, and the most modern appliances for the efficient working of the ship and her cargo, including refrigerating machinery and chambers, mechanical ventilation, steam heating, and a complete installation of electric lighting with duplicate dynamos. Luxurious accommodation has been provided amidships for the first class passengers, and as the steamer is intended to trade in tropical climates, the commodious staterooms with the latest improvements for the comfort of passengers have been placed on the upper deck, which admits of perfect ventilation. Above, on the bridge deck, are a spacious handsome dining saloon, a music or social hall and a smoking-room, in polished oak and fitted with swivel side-lights, electric fans, &c., the ventilating arrangements having had special attention. Overhead the boat deck forms an admirable shelter to the spacious promenade on the bridge, and on it are situated the chart-room, captain's and officers' cabins. The second class accommodation, which is scarcely inferior to the first, is situated on the poop-deck, with a large dining-saloon, a comfortable smoking-room and roomy staterooms; while spacious quarters are reserved in the 'tween decks for the intermediate and steerage passengers. A barber's shop and a surgeon's laboratory are likewise commodiously fitted. The machinery consists of a set of triple expansion engines, having cylinders 29 in., 48 in., and 79 in., in diameter, by 54 in. stroke, with two double and one single-ended boilers for a working pressure of 185 lbs., and fitted with the most modern appliances for efficiency and economy. The *Kasuga Maru* has two masts and a single funnel. We hardly need to add that the cuisine is under able management. Only duly qualified surgeons, experienced stewards, stewardesses, well trained servants and barbers are employed on board these steamers.

Telegraphic information has been received at Nagasaki from Korea to the effect that the man named Flanagan, arrested on suspicion of the murder of Mr. G. Lake at Chemulpo, had been found guilty and sentenced to penal servitude for life.—*Nagasaki Press*.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BRITISH RESIDENTS AT NEWCHWANG.

The following letter and resolutions were handed to Lord Charles Beresford by the Chairman of the meeting of British residents at Newchwang:—

Newchwang, North-China,
7th November, 1898.

My Lord,—I have great pleasure in handing you herewith two copies of a series of resolutions passed unanimously, after full and free discussion, at a meeting of British residents this morning. Further, I am instructed by the meeting to request you to be good enough to communicate one copy of these resolutions to Lord Salisbury with such comments as you may consider advisable.—I am, my Lord, your obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. J. FREDK. BANDINEL,

Chairman of the Meeting.

To Rear Admiral Right Hon. Lord Charles Beresford, C.B.

Copy of Resolutions unanimously adopted at a meeting of British Residents at the Port of Newchwang, North-China, on the 7th of November, 1898:—

We advocate—

I.—Obtaining a British Concession on the North bank of the river, that is to say on the side opposite to the present town.

II.—Forming the East end of the town within the walls into a foreign (not necessarily British) Settlement.

III.—The right of owning land in the interior and establishing there filatures and other similar enterprises worked by foreign machinery.

IV.—The right of working mines in any part of the three provinces where Chinese or other foreigners may or do work them, and on equally favourable terms.

V.—The maintenance of our right to inland navigation with power to stop at any town or village on the bank, equally with those enjoyed on any river in China.

VI.—That the rights and properties of the Protestant missionaries and their converts should be maintained intact as heretofore according to the rights existing by the Treaty of Tientsin and the Edict of 1891.

VII.—That a British Consular agent be permanently stationed in Kirin as formerly in Chungking.

VIII.—We deprecate most strongly the annexation of this port and of the three provinces by any foreign Power, and we rely on the British Government to maintain the open door.

IX.—We object to the right claimed and exercised by the Russians, of landing railway material without examination or payment of duty; especially as this diminished the security on which money has been loaned by British subjects to the Chinese Government.

X.—We view with apprehension the establishment of Russian military posts throughout the provinces as at Kirin.

XI.—That the Russian Government should be requested to appoint a Consul at this port in view of the large and increasing Russian interests, and the possibility of complications arising which would demand immediate conference between Consul and Officials on the spot.

XII.—That a copy of these resolutions be sent by the Chairman to Lord Charles Beresford, also another copy with the request that he will communicate the same to Lord Salisbury, and that another copy be sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

J. J. FREDK. BANDINEL,
Chairman of the Meeting.

ON SIBERIAN SHORES: NIKOLAEVSK.

Nikolaevsk may be accepted as a very good specimen of a new and gradually thriving Siberian township. On the eastern coast of Siberia it is entitled to rank next to Vladivostok in trade and influence. It is situated, by some curious freak of the original founders, one hundred and twenty-five miles north of Castries Bay, on the northern shore of the Amur River. To the uninitiated visitor there appears no reason why the township should not have been built a hundred miles nearer the mouth of the river and thus save a very dangerous passage for even the

lightest draught steamers. True the visitor has the increased benefit of seeing some beautiful hill scenery, and if he be a sportsman he has the chagrin of passing immense flocks of wild fowl—ducks, geese, and swan—darkening the numerous sand banks. This feeling, however, is scarcely shared by the captain of the vessel, who with the aid of a Russian sailor installed as a pilot keeps anxious watch ahead as the steamer following the narrow navigable channel passes from one side of the river to the other. The river is buoyed and there are numerous shore marks for the guidance of the pilot, but at night the ships have to anchor. There are two chief impediments—bars—the "heaven-sent barriers of China" the greatest depth of water on each being 14 feet, generally less. When the town of Nikolaevsk is first sighted the steamer is creeping along close under the northern bank and one naturally presumes the vessel will keep a straight course and anchor close off the town. But the river and the ideas of those early founders upset this calculation, for the ship steers off at an angle and is brought to an anchor a quarter of a mile from the opposite shore and over a mile from the wharfs of the town! Why the builders of this Siberian collection of log cabins erected them on such an inaccessible spot when numbers of more suitable sites are close at hand is unapparent; but in Siberia as in western Russia it is not wise to reason. At Vladivostok for instance one may question why the roads, with the heavy vehicular traffic, are never macadamised, but are left to be sloughs of mud at wet periods and to provide whirlwinds of dust in dry weather. Or with a sea frontage no system of drainage exists beyond that beneath the planks which perform a double duty of forming a footpath and covering an otherwise open drain or dug-out channel intended to be one. The visitor is all the more solicitous of that reason when he hears of an occasional pedestrian disappearing momentarily and unexpectedly through a plank, grown rotten with service and inattention. Last year, it is stated, the foreign European inhabitants at Vladivostok petitioned the governor with a large sum of money to keep the roads in some sort of condition better than at present. The sum was accepted with due official dignity, and up to now—twelve months later—a few blocks of stone have been carted on to a quiet bye street: monuments of official energy. They reckon not of sanitary, local boards, or parish councils on Siberian shores. What suits the head representative of H.I.M. must suit the people. Progress does not therefore proceed on wings. Yet the city of Vladivostok, built on the slope of the hills and overlooking the bay, is impressive. The houses are large, commodious, and well-built, and brick and stone edifices have risen in all directions on the ruins of the old log-houses of former times, few of which remain. The business is mostly in the hands of Germans and Chinese, Russian energy being chiefly confined to the naval and military services, and it is difficult to rub shoulders on the streets with a Russian who is not an official of some sort. At Vladivostok we become acquainted with the Russian soldier; at Nikolaevsk we are introduced to the ex-Russian convict. Neither personally is impressive, unless it be the amount of dirt each carries on an unwashed person. The soldier and the labouring-class of Russian in Siberia regard with a jealous eye their articles of clothing, especially the boots, for it is apparent, following the example of the Chinese, they doff not their clothing from the commencement of winter to spring. The Russian labourer in Siberia appears dirty, ill-fed and degraded. The morning tub is there unknown, clean linen is a luxury. The food of the soldiers and labourers appears to be coarse brown bread with tea, with occasional snacks of dried salmon. The Chinese coolies appear to be of the lowest type of that class, and hail mostly from Shangtung and further north. The natives of the coast appear to be a mixture of Mongol and Ino. They live in huts, are too lazy to build log cabins—though examples have been set them—to protect them from the winter's cold, and maintain an existence by hunting and snaring fish, which are sold to European agents. They are insatiably fond of alcoholic liquors and many rich bargains in skins and spirits are told. But the natives are growing wiser as game grows scarcer and they now realise the better value of their goods. All the skins go

home, and Siberian furs can be purchased—according to Vladivostok merchants—cheaper in London than at Siberian ports, with the exception of an occasional bargain with an impecunious native.

The Amur river, though very very wide and shallow, teems with fish, and the vast hills on its banks for hundreds of miles are densely wooded. At Nikolaevsk the one industry is the exportation of salmon; salted, dried, and made into "salmon backs." A dozen fine fresh salmon can be bought at any of the river cabins for one dollar Mex. Higher up the river the preparation of caviar forms another industry, but on the occasion of this visit it was scarce to obtain. The town of Nikolaevsk is composed of a collection of houses built of wood on the orthodox "log-cabin" principle, and some are very commodious, comfortable, and well-finished. From the river the town presents a very picturesque appearance with the brightly painted roofs of the houses, in the centre of which stands the church with its green log walls and white pinnacled towers. Although very quiet by day the reverse is the case at night, for Russia in fulfilling her colonisation scheme of Siberia has imported into the town a fine type of time-expired criminals from Saghalien, who rob and if necessary murder anyone of respectable appearance found on the streets after dark. So bad has this evil become that in May last the principal merchants (foreigners) on the visit of the Governor of the province placed the condition of affairs before him, and although an apology for a police force exists and the place is strongly garrisoned by soldiers, absolutely nothing has been done to remedy such a disgraceful state of affairs. Virtue is triumphant by day—the town then sleeps; unrestrained villainy flourishes by night. The official department mostly in evidence in Nikolaevsk is the Customs—it is that only with which foreigners have to deal. If the Customs service of Siberia be representative of the effectiveness of the other services of Russia, then she can congratulate herself that she is but a few degrees removed from the degradation of the public services of Spain. Instances of open, barefaced, smuggling take place hourly in Nikolaevsk under the very ken of the Customs' officials, and the same applies to Vladivostok. For instance when visiting a steamer, which was about to depart and only awaited the Customs' clearance, a tug-boat came alongside and landed a portly and well-uniformed representative of the I.R. Customs. He immediately made his way to the saloon, where, after transacting the business with regard to the clearance, and partaking of liquid refreshments, he proceeded to examine the cabins and rooms with the energy of one intent upon performing his duties to the uttermost, though there was nothing illicit likely to leave the port—unless it be ticket-of-leave convicts. This done he marched with dignified mien to the door of the saloon and stood languidly gazing on the river until the tug should leave. Curious enough the reason of the tug's delay was due to the absence of its captain and its engineer. The latter passed the Customs' officer with a case of German brandy on his shoulder, nor did the engineer hurry or attempt concealment of his charge, if that were possible, because of the presence of the Customs' official. At the same moment the captain of the tug came from the other direction with a similar case, both of which were carefully concealed in the tug. The responsibility of the Customs having now been concluded the tug put off for the wharf. Before leaving, when joking about the incident to a local Danish merchant who happened to be on board, he replied "Oh, that's nothing—the officer gets his share. You should study the matter at Vladivostok, where smuggling is carried on wholesale owing to the well-known susceptibility of the Customs' officials to bribery." While the ships are in port at Nikolaevsk at all times men come alongside, climb the gangway, walk forward to the quarters of the Chinese crew as if the vessel belonged to them, but shortly return to their boats, well laden with brands of liquors imported into the East for the sole purpose, be it charitably said, to sell! Brandy, three stars, gilt and white labelled, the label a work of lithographic art, purchased at four taels a case, with the usually patriotic label "made in Germany" conspicuous

by its absence, sells "over the ship's side" in Nikolaevsk at two roubles a bottle! Shanghai "Manila made" cigars, purchasable at seventy cents Mex. a box of one hundred, sell in the mart for two to three roubles. Of course the reason is to be found in the heavy duties on cigars and liquors imposed by the Government, and a box of ordinary Londres cigars, purchasable at Shanghai for three dollars, sells in Nikolaevsk for fifteen roubles—\$16.50. But it is evident that an ordinary Chinese ship's comprador who puts in a season or two on this run can gracefully retire well laden with the proceeds permissible by neglect of duty and susceptibility to bribery on the part of the Customs' officials. Of the other services it is not easy to get information. Soldiers are employed as coolies to work the ship, their companions being Chinese and convicts, their rations apparently consisting of the omnipresent brown bread and tea, and when the captain of the tug-boat likes, or the weather is too rough, they are left out, on board the lighter in mid-stream, to shield themselves all night as best they can from a piercing cold wind. The soldiers get paid extra for such work but complain that their chief officer seizes half of these additional earnings. The British public howl a good deal about the condition of their "Tommy Atkins"—let them picture the British soldier, dirty, with sodden and ragged clothing, ill-fed, badly paid and "squeezed" at that, working in competition with the lowest class of Chinese coolie. The only point observable in the Russian soldier on Siberian shores to rank him as a fighting unit, is his physique—all other qualities seem lacking—a vacuum, if one may put it, produced by his treatment. From first to last he appears to remain the same dull poverty-stricken peasant, and the only result of his military training he takes home with him apparently is his grey great-coat considerably the worse for wear. There are exceptions, and soldiers who show ability as carpenters (the soldiers build the houses in Nikolaevsk), shoemakers, tailors, etc., are invited to remain. These, if they could only be persuaded to do so in large numbers, would form the real practical material for the colonisation of Siberia. It is useless by experience to hope that result of the Russian criminal convicts from Saghalien, though they are fairly well treated and have placed before them many inducements. But they appear to be too utterly ignorant and degraded to ever expect them to form even the rough nucleus of a successful civilisation. Grim tales are told of the penal settlements of Saghalien, where not a night is said to pass without some unhappy wretch murdering another. The real colonists would be the soldiers and the political prisoners, but the latter are banished to remote parts and treated with severity. Whilst in Saghalien the criminal who may have murdered four of his fellows is well fed offered a cabin to live in and paid for his employment, his political fellow whose only crime may be a modernised idea of government is kept a life prisoner in the mines or chained to a wheelbarrow doing the hardest employment above. Siberia seen superficially from its shores is a magnificent country. It is magnificently wooded even to the summit of its hills along its rugged shores, its hidden mineral wealth is said by engineers to be enormous. Its soil on the banks of the Amur is very rich and suitable for cultivation, though the long winter of five months may offer impediments to some branches of agriculture. It is a country with a future.

A. C.

THE INTER-PORT SHOOTING MATCH.

HONGKONG AGAIN VICTORIOUS.

On Saturday morning Mr. M. S. Northcote, Hon. Sec. of the Hongkong Rifle Association, received a wire stating that Shanghai's score in the inter-colonial shooting match was 893.

Hongkong's score was 934 and Singapore's 921, so that Hongkong is again the winner. Of the nine contests which have taken place Hongkong has now won six, Singapore two, and Shanghai one.

The following is Shanghai's detailed score:—

	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total.
Sergt.-Major Lowrie	88	33	33	99
Priv. Dumfries	81	32	32	95
Gunner Battey	82	32	30	94
Priv. Hart	82	31	28	91
Captain Little	82	28	27	87
Colr.-Sergt. Peace	80	28	29	87
Sergt. Macdonald	82	30	25	87
Lient. Keylock	28	29	29	86
Gun. J. E. Macdonald	30	29	26	85
Sergt. J. McDonald	33	22	27	82

893

UMPIRES.

Singapore—Lient. Carey, R.N.
Hongkong—Major Tripp, (late Commandant Hongkong Volunteers.)
Shanghai—Major Holliday.

The *Singapore Free Press* of November 11th says:—"Examining the eight years' statistics of the scoring in the annual inter-colonial match between Hongkong, Shanghai, and Singapore, it appears that fifteen team shoots with Martini-Henry aggregated 11,997 points, that is to say 799.8 as an average per shoot. Nine Lee-Metford shoots aggregated 8,112 points, giving 901.3 as an average per shoot. The difference on ten rifles per team is 101.5 points; otherwise 10.15 points per man. This is not a fine weather handicap but an all-weather handicap, the match having often been fired by individual teams in very unfavourable circumstances such as a heavy thunder-storm or an afternoon's down-pour, with disastrous results."

CRICKET.

SHANGHAI TEAM V. STAY-AT-HOMES.

On Saturday a match took place on the ground in Queen's Road between the Hongkong "Shanghai" eleven and the Stay-at-Homes. It will be seen from the score that the home-sters had by far the best of the game, and that if it had not been for the fine batting of A. S. Anton the show they would have made would have been sorry indeed. His 112 not out included three 6's, fourteen 4's, seven 2's and 24 singles. Hancock was the top scorer—84—for the Stay-at-Homes, and Wall came next with 72. Score:—

STAY AT HOMES.					
T. Sercombe Smith, b Vallings	19				
H. Hancock, run out	84				
P. A. Cox, c Davies, b Vallings	1				
K. G. Campbell, R.A., b Lawson	29				
E. Mast, st Arthur, b Langhorne	4				
Salter, R.N., c sub, b Campbell	6				
Lt. Dewar, R.N., c Arthur, b Campbell	7				
Wall, R.N., b Lawson	72				
Bedwell, R.N., b Lethbridge	10				
Mounsey, b Vallings	6				
A. R. Lowe, not out	0				
Extras	13				
Total	251				

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Lethbridge	14	4	39	—	1
Lawson	22	7	56	—	2
Vallings	12.3	—	58	1	3
Langhorne	14	4	53	—	1
P. G. Davies	3	2	10	—	—
G. D. Campbell	6	1	20	—	2

THE HONGKONG "SHANGHAI" ELEVEN.					
G. D. Campbell, c P. A. Cox, b T. S. Smith	7				
A. S. Anton, not out	112				
Dr. Lawson, b T. S. Smith	10				
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., b T. S. Smith	0				
H. Arthur, b Hancock	6				
Capt. Dyson, A.P.D., run out	6				
Lt. Lethbridge, K.O.R., b T. S. Smith	0				
A. G. Ward, l.b.w., b T. S. Smith	8				
Rev. G. R. Vallings, b T. S. Smith	0				
Lt. P. G. Davies, R.A., c and b T. S. Smith	0				
A. Anderson, b Wall	21				
Extras	5				
Total	175				

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
T. S. Smith	17	3	71	—	7
Wall	13.1	3	55	—	1
Hancock	6	2	18	—	1
Bedwell	4	1	16	—	—
Dewar	5	1	15	—	—

Small-pox has broken out on board of H.M.S. *Iphigenia* now lying at anchor off Kunglungtao. Seven of her crew are in the hospital at Chefoo.—N. C. Daily News.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

RACES FOR THE COMMODORE'S CUPS.

On Saturday last the first of the series of races for the two prizes (one for each class) presented by the Commodore of the Club, the Hon. F. H. May, were sailed on a nice steady easterly breeze. The course was from the Police Pier round Meyer's East buoy, Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rocks, and Channel Rocks, all to port. In the first class the race was robbed of half its interest by the unfortunate grounding of the Bonito on the sunken wall between the Praya wall at Tsimshatsui and Blackhead's Point. The boat stuck fast for two or three minutes and must have lost nearly five minutes' time altogether over the mishap. The Bonito is a new boat from a design by Mr. A. E. Payne, of Southampton, the well known yacht architect, built by kind permission of Mr. D. Gillies, who, true sportsman as he is, has ever done all in his power to assist our local Yacht Club, at the Hunghom Dock by Mr. R. Cooke, himself a very successful yacht designer and the keenest of yachtsmen. Great things are therefore hoped of the gallant Bonito, and much interest centres in her trials of prowess with the Erica and Maid Marian, the creatures of Mr. A. Denison's genius. It must be remembered that the latter boats are in their third yachting season and were designed to a limited draught of 3 feet and a limit in rating of 23 feet and that the limit in draught was removed and the limit of rating increased to 24 feet before the Bonito was designed. If therefore the boats or any of them from Mr. Denison's designs can hold their own against the Bonito, it will go far to demonstrate what some already suspect, that in Mr. Denison we possess a yacht designer of a very high order.

After the mishap to the Bonito the race resolved itself into a tremendous struggle between the Maid Marian and the Erica, the former having the best of it (as the appended times round the various marks show) until nearing the Channel Rocks for the second time. Here the boats split tacks and the Erica standing out with good judgment into the stronger tide and being served by the wind, crossed just ahead of her rival when next they met. Then a very pretty piece of weather bowing by the Erica was witnessed, and Mr. Denison sailing his boat with consummate skill succeeded in rounding the Channel Rocks ahead and ultimately won a finely contested race. The Maid was second and the Sybil, which has been marvelously improved by the alterations made in her by Mr. R. Cooke, third.

A CLASS.				
	Channel Rocks.	Kowloon Rocks.	Channel Rocks.	Finish. Handicap.
Erica	2 56 35	3 8 13	3 28 0	3 54 45 ser.
Maid Marian	2 56 25	3 8 2	3 28 40	3 56 5 ser.
Sybil	2 57 38	3 9 37	3 30 53	3 59 10 ser.
Active	2 58 23	3 10 32	3 31 50	4 0 58 1 1/2
Meteor	2 59 53	3 11 4	not taken	4 3 35 2
Chanticleer	3 0 50	3 12 25	"	4 2 0 1
Bonito	3 1 20	3 14 17	"	4 4 18 ser.

We were so engrossed in watching the struggle between Erica and Maid Marian, that we had little time to watch the doings of the boats in the second class. A good race ensued between Ladybird, Dart, and She (which had a handicap of 8 minutes) and a most exciting finish resulted in the Ladybird saving her time on the She by 45 seconds and scoring first place. She was second and Dart third.

B CLASS.				
	Start.	Finish.	H'cap.	
Ladybird	2 30 45	4 19 10	scratch	
She	2 30 15	4 27 55	8	
Dart	2 31 0	4 21 21	scratch	
Princess	2 30 20	4 21 31	scratch	
Doris	2 30 10	4 26 2	4	
Payne	2 30 25	4 37 10	scratch	
Elfin	2 30 35	4 41 25	5	
Raven	2 30 7	4 42 30	12	

The next series of races will be sailed on 27th instant.

Shortly after seven o'clock on Sunday morning it was discovered that a fire had broken out in a godown at 76, Praya East, the property of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. Though the Fire Brigade, under Mr. Kinghorn, was soon on the scene some time elapsed before the fire was got under. It was, however, prevented from spreading. Spontaneous combustion is said to have been the cause of the outbreak.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

REPORT ON GUN PRACTICE.

The following report on the gun practice held at Stonecutters' Island, on 29th October, 1898, by Capt. L. A. C. Gordon, R.A. Adjutant Hongkong Volunteers, has been circulated:—

At the conclusion of the Camp of Instruction held at Stonecutters' this year, the Volunteer Corps carried out a combined practice on a sea range under the following circumstances:—The target consisted of three sampans under sail, and were cast loose from a launch at 6 minutes intervals. The idea was "that at dawn information was given to the Commandant that an enemy had appeared on the shore near Lai Chi Kok, and were embarking in boats"; the Volunteer Corps were ordered to occupy a position on the North shore of the island and repel, at all hazards, any landing by the enemy; to effect this the guns were hastily marched to a covered spot near the rifle butts, and here preparations were made to receive the attack; as soon as it was seen that the boats were converging on the shore under Central Fort, the guns were ordered to advance into position. The Maxims led, and occupied the flanks of the position reserved for the Field Battery; their positions were covered by bushes as much as possible; the Field Battery was more exposed, but were well placed. The occupation of these positions was rapidly and well carried out and fire was quickly opened on the leading sampan, which was sailing down wind across the position.

The Maxims throughout made most excellent shooting. To economise the ammunition, orders were issued to shoot only small quantities at a time, and as each bunch was fired the rattle of the hits on the woodwork sounded as an echo. The Field Battery also made excellent practice at ranges varying from 1,200 yards to 750 yards, one direct hit being scored by a common shell and about two-thirds of the shrapnel being burst at an effective range, i.e. from 20 to 40 yards short, and from 10 to 15 feet high. One sampan was water logged—it is impossible to sink one of these craft—whilst both the others were riddled with bullets.

The fire discipline of both units was excellent, and to this may be attributed, in a great measure, the excellent practice.

NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held at the Company's offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on 2nd Nov. at noon for the purpose of confirming two resolutions passed at a meeting held on November 5th. Mr. H. Humphreys presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. A. Hardoon, J. S. Hagen, E. S. Kelly, E. Kelly, A. H. Mancell, A. P. Nobbs, A. Van Nierop, W. H. Potts, R. H. Potts, E. Robinson, W. D. Sutton, C. Ewens, W. C. Taylor, J. A. Tarrant, Hung Tsai, Lau Chan Pak, Sin Tak Fan, Ki Fuk Sang, Wong Tsuk Yan, Wong Fuk, and Wong Man Lam.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN—I see a few shareholders present who were not here at the last meeting, so I will ask Mr. Ewens to read the agreement before moving the resolutions.

Mr. EWENS read the agreement.

The CHAIRMAN—I propose that the first resolution which was passed on November 5th, be confirmed, namely:—"That the agreement dated the nineteenth day of October, 1898, made between the Company of the one part and Queen Mines, Limited, of the other part, for the sale of the undertaking of the Company to Queen Mines, Limited, for \$25,000 to be paid and satisfied by the allotment of 100,000 fully paid up shares in Queen Mines, Limited, of 25 cents each, be and the same is hereby ratified."

Mr. MANCELL seconded and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I propose that the second resolution which was passed on the 5th November be confirmed, namely:—"That the Company be wound up voluntarily and that William Hutton Potts be, and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."

Mr. SIN TAK FAN seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance.

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

The Japanese Minister, Mr. Yano, had his audience with the Emperor and Empress Dowager on the 5th instant. The Emperor, we learn, seemed in good health and spoke with a strong voice. In replying to Mr. Yano the Empress Dowager spoke first, and was followed by the Emperor. Mr. Hayashi, the Japanese Secretary of Legation, who saw the Emperor on the 20th of September, just before the *coup d'état*, when Marquis Ito had his audience, reports the Emperor's appearance as little changed since September, though he looks a little paler now.

It is well understood now in Peking that the intention of the Manchus was to kill the Emperor or formally depose him, and his successor was chosen; but the attitude of the Foreign Ministers made them pause, and the arrival of the Legation Guards made them conclude that they had better leave things as they are; meanwhile, as two of the Princes told a prominent resident in Peking: "We let a foreign doctor see him to pacify the Legations, but we don't let him take any of the foreign doctor's medicines." So timorous are these Manchu Princes that there is very little doubt that a really strong representation from the Foreign Ministers, backed by a movement on the part of the British fleet, would put the Emperor on his throne again. The presence of some two hundred assorted foreign soldiers and sailors in Peking has had a remarkable effect already.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE CHINESE EXAMINATION AND COLLEGIATE SYSTEM.

The following Imperial decrees have been received by the *N. C. Daily News* by telegraph from Peking:—

"THE ORTHODOX WAY."

I, the Empress Dowager Tze-hsi-tuan-yn, etc., have received a memorial from the Ministers of the Board of Rites dilating on the supreme importance of making it known throughout the Empire that there are to be no changes from the old methods of literary examinations among candidates for degrees, in order to set at rest, once for all, the present uncertainty that has been caused by the Emperor's recent reform measures in that direction. Now, as the Empire has always prospered and flourished under the old *régime* and the methods of old, inaugurated and sanctioned by the sacred ancestors of our dynasty, have attained the acme of excellence, there is indeed no necessity for making any changes in the curriculum of literary examinations hitherto obtaining; and I therefore grant the request of the said Board. The said Board of Rites is accordingly commanded to notify all the Literary Examiners and Literary Chancellors throughout this Empire to follow henceforth, carefully and reverentially, all the old methods formerly appertaining, according to law, to the examinations of literary candidates for degrees, in order that the graduates thereof may all be of the uniform orthodox type as of old.

MODERN SCHOOLS TO BE PERMITTED.

The above named Board further memorialises me asking that I put a stop to the new studies ordered to be taught in provincial colleges and that these institutions revert to their old habits of instructing solely in the study of the *Confucian Analects* and the *Five Classics*. Now the object of colleges as institutions of learning is to teach solid and substantial branches of study and act solely for the instruction of old-time subjects. For instance, such subjects as astronomy, geography, military tactics, mathematics, etc., are modern requirements necessary for the country's welfare, and as such within the province of students of literature to attain. Modern schools do not go beyond the instructions noted above and hence only differ in name from the present idea of collegiate instruction. They really have the same objects in view. In view of this, therefore, I see no reason for putting a stop to the combination of modern schools of instruction with the colleges of the various provinces of the empire, nor should it be claimed that modern studies of importance ought not to be taught in the said colleges. Let this, therefore, be made known to all throughout this empire.

A PROGRESSIVE SPIRIT.

In my anxiety to benefit my Empire and knowing that in military, agricultural, mechanical, and commercial matters foreign countries are superior to ours in that they succeed in strengthening and enriching their respective countries, I, the Empress Dowager Tze-hsi-tuan-yu, etc., desire that such portions of the above branches as may be useful to China may be selected and copied by us and success will follow our attempts. It has been declared by heedless persons that the Imperial House is desirous only of walking in the footsteps of our ancestors and cares not to provide for the distant future. This, however, is all wrong. I only desire to do things beneficial to the country at large irrespective of the source from whence these solid benefits may come, and insist on eradicating harmful practices. The duty of putting such into effect however lies with the high provincial officers of the empire, and I depend for information as to the success or non-success of such measures upon the scrutiny of the Censors. I therefore hereby command that if the said high officials and Censors hereafter desire to put any measure that may benefit the country into practice, they shall at once memorialise me on the subject, and I will select the most practical and useful to the people for immediate trial. Let me see something practical done and not merely empty words. Let this decree be made known to the whole empire.

MURDER OF AN ENGLISH MISSIONARY.

Shanghai, 18th November.

Last night a telegraphic report was received here that a member of the China Inland Mission in Pangkai, not far from Kweiyang, the capital of Kweichow province, had been murdered; to-day official confirmation of the news was obtained. The victim is Mr. W. S. Fleming, who has been murdered along with a native preacher of the same mission. No further particulars are as yet forthcoming.

Later information states that the murdered missionary was working amongst the Miaotze or semi-civilised tribes, over whom the Chinese Government professes to have only nominal control.—*China Gazette*.

LI HUNG-CHANG APPOINTED FOR YELLOW RIVER WORK.

The *N. C. Daily News* publishes the following Imperial decree, issued on the 13th November:—

I, the Empress Dowager Tze-hsi-tuan-yu, etc., commanded the other day the Prince of Li and others to consider what should be done to procure the proper conservation of the Yellow River in the future and their reply is that I should appoint some high officer to proceed to the spot and report upon the matter. I hereby appoint Li Hung-chang to go to Shantung and in conjunction with the Director-General of the River, Jen Taojung, and Chang Shu-wei, Governor of Shantung, make a complete examination of the embankments of the said river and report to me what they consider should be done to them. They must find out some tangible and proper way to stop the further ravages of this river and not recommend works that may turn out in the end chimerical and impossible. Moreover the conservation of the Yellow River means peace and happiness to the inhabitants of several provinces and their lives and prosperity will depend upon the measures recommended; hence Li Hung-chang and his colleagues should do their duty thoroughly and diligently. I forbid each and all of them to push the responsibility of the work on one another's shoulders, and so baulk me of my real desires in this important matter of river conservation. They are further to draw up a solid and proper estimate of the amount of money required for the work and present me with a detailed report in regard to the whole.

The *Government Gazette* announces that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint Commander Hastings to be Acting Harbour Master (in addition to his other duties), with effect from 12th inst., during the temporary absence on account of sickness of Commander Ramsey.

SETTLEMENT EXTENSION AT SHANGHAI.

The following telegram has been received by the Shanghai Taotai from the Viceroy Lin of Nanking:—"Great Britain and the United States have requested for an extension of the Anglo-American Settlements of Shanghai and the Central Government at Peking has acceded to the said request, with instructions that I should appoint the Taotai of Shanghai to act in conjunction with the Consuls-General of Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of the said extension. As I am, however, now engaged in settling the Ningpo Cemetery Riot affair with the French Consul-General, you are hereby instructed to make an arrangement with the first-named Consuls-General as to a postponement of the extension question until I shall have settled matters with the French Consul-General, when the other subject will be at once taken in hand."—*N. C. Daily News*.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The number of fires reported this season is much greater than in the corresponding seasons of previous years, and in consequence the fire brigades have been ordered by the Kaifong people to be ready for service at any moment. On the 17th instant a fire broke out in a lacquered-ware shop named Chi Cheung, in Ting-loong Street, when twenty houses were destroyed. On the 18th instant another big fire occurred in a bamboo-ware shop in Taihong Lane, when over forty-five houses were burnt to the ground. Awakening to the serious loss by fire, the shop people have concerted a plan to protect themselves. They are going to establish a Fire Insurance Company on mutual lines and which will have no capital for investment, all the affairs being managed by the charitable institutions. If any house requires insurance it is to pay two mace a month as premium for every hundred taels insured. If the premium does not meet the loss an average is to be struck, the sufferers being paid proportionately to the sum insured. All the pecuniary benefits realised by the undertaking are to be employed as charitable funds. The Che Hong Club in Ngankung Street is to be temporarily used as the office of the Company.

The soldiers who were sent to Sunon District to suppress the alleged rising there were all shipped back to Canton the other day by the gunboat Kwang Yun. All is quiet there now and no disturbance has been reported.

On the 18th instant a firewood junk together with her master and a junk-coolie was seized by a robbers' boat near Yawong Bay, in Punu district. The robbers proposed to sell the firewood and to detain the junk master and his servant for ransom. When the robbers were sailing to land a gunboat was seen approaching and the junk master shouted out loudly for assistance. The gunboat at once gave pursuit and succeeded in releasing the two captives and effecting the capture of two robbers, who were immediately sent to Canton for trial.

HONGKONG.

There were 2,353 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 188 were Europeans.

Some 250 blue-jackets from the fleet had a march out as far as Happy Valley on the 28th November.

At the regular meeting of Victoria Lodge held on Tuesday night Bro. C. W. Spriggs was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and Bro. A. V. Aparc Treasurer.

On the 18th Nov. the officers and crew of the *Immortalité* gave a concert to commemorate the completion of their three years' commission on the China Station.

The return of cases of communicable diseases notified as occurring in the colony last week shows three cases of enteric fever, of which two were in the harbour and one in the city, and one case of diphtheria.

At the regular meeting of the Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, E.C., held on the 16th inst., Bro. A. Shelton Hooper was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and Bro. J. W. Cumming was elected Hon. Treasurer.

In the case of Li Yuen Wa and Li Cheung Pin, which was a trial of certain issues having reference to the estate of Li Loang, who died in March, 1864, the parties have come to terms. The hearing of the case commenced on the 27th August.

For being in possession of \$200 without being able to give a satisfactory explanation as to how they came by it William Hughes and William Kerne were on 18th Nov. fined \$10, or three months, by Commander Hastings. It appeared that on Sunday Detective-Inspector Moffat learned that defendants, who are sailors staying at the Sailors' Home, had a large sum of money in their possession. On going in search of the men the Inspector found Hughes in a house in Peel Street, with a \$50 note and a \$25 note on him. Hughes was taken to the Central Police Station. The Inspector had procured a description of the other man from the house in Peel Street and shortly after noon P.C. Noble appeared at the Central Police Station with the man in his custody. Kerne had about \$100 in notes concealed in one of his stockings. They would give no information as to how they became possessed of the notes.

Two Chinamen were committed to the Sessions on 21st Nov. for an attempted robbery with arms. Several of the houses in Irving Street are occupied by Chinese employes of the Sugar Refinery. These go to work at six o'clock every morning, so that for some time there are only women in the houses. The robbers were no doubt aware of this and timed their visit accordingly. In the house No. 13 were two women and a child. There was a sum of money in the room occupied by one of the women. Of this the robbers had probably got wind, for at seven o'clock yesterday morning they crept up the stairs and burst into one of the rooms where there was a woman and a child about ten years of age. They brandished knives, seized the woman by the throat, and threatened to kill her if she did not keep quiet. The child, however, yelled out with all its might, and being afraid that it would alarm the neighbourhood the robbers decamped. Before they could make good their escape a Chinese barber who lives opposite, attracted by the child's cries, appeared on the scene and got hold of one of the men, the other getting away. When at the Police Station subsequently the barber recognised the other man in the yard, and at once gave him into custody.

In response to an invitation stating that the captain and officers of H.M.S. *Powerful* would be "At Home" on Tuesday evening, some 200 ladies and gentlemen assembled on the poop of the cruiser, which poop had been transformed into a most comfortable hall for the occasion, and witnessed a most admirable performance of the musical extravaganza "Aladdin, or the wonderful Scamp" by the Officers' Amateur Dramatic Company. Said the programme:—"New scenery, dress, and effects prepared entirely for the occasion. The music composed by Signor Coalfield on the ancient models of A.D. 362 from notes on the spot. The costumes from the same old Cloadian period. The scenery by a *Powerful* artist, and all the fine old crusted jokes freshly decanted for the occasion." The following was the cast:—The Emperor (who compasses all his wants), Commander Stansfeld; The Grand Vizier (an electric old Fizzer), Lieut. Heneage; Pekoe (the Vizier's own peculiar joy), Engineer Sheen; Aladdin (a lad in years, but, alas! in love), Lieut. Halsey; Alanazar the Magician (a *Powerful* fire-eater), Fleet Engineer Edwards; Genius of the Ring (a noted light weight), Lieut. Streetfield; Slave of the Lamp (a heavy gun, 9.2), Lieut. Egerton; Widow Twankey (with a War-spite reputation), Lieut. Hodges; Princess Badroulbador (a vision of delight), Lieut. Ingles; Tee-To-Tum (a brotherly district visitor), Engineer Wall; Attendants of the Courts, Messrs. Charlton, Dowling, Bedford, Saunders, White, Lewin, Middleton. The performance was throughout of a most enjoyable character. Lieut. Ingles, in a summer frock and flowing locks, made a most fascinating princess, and Lieut. Hodge ably sustained the part of Widow Twankey. The other characters were also in excellent hands. Messrs. Dawson and Whiting gave a capital acrobatic display. Lieut. Nicolas was musical director, Gunner Sims stage director, and Fleet Paymaster Kay manager.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 19th November.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular).—Our last "printed" Tea advices were under date 7th inst. Black Tea.—A few settlements are reported at about previous rates, and no fresh supplies have come forward. Small quantities of Ceylon Tea are occasionally imported for mixing with China Tea for the Russian market.

Settlements reported are:—
Ningchow 1,171 half-chest at Tls. 16 to 17½
Kutoan 187 " at Tls. 18½

1,358 half-chests.

Stock, 3,157 half-chests against 14,750 half-chests at same date last year.

Green Tea.—Pingsuey.—Purchases and shipments on native account are more important than for any previous fortnight since July. Prices, quality considered, are the lowest we have seen for many years, but most advices from the United States are adverse to shipping even at present rates. Country Tea.—The quietness reported in our last advices continued during the early part of the interval under review, and Teamen were ready sellers, sometimes accepting half a tael under offers refused by them a few weeks previously. Perhaps the most notable settlement has been the purchase of the "crack" chop of Tienkai "Li-yik-hing" at Tails 80½ a picul proportion. At the close there is less desire to press Teas for sale and as every sale made reduces our stock, it is probable that our market may remain steady for the balance of the season. The lowest quotation for Fychow has been Tls. 15½ a picul. Hysons.—The Jaroslav (s) clearing for Batoum to-day will take a very large cargo, probably 24,000 half-chests. There is a small demand for medium Teas for shipment to Bombay, but otherwise there is nothing doing and prices tend downwards.

Stock, 3,157 half-chests, against 14,750 half-chests at same date last year.

Settlements reported are:—

Pingsuey ... 6,883 at Tls. 20 to 27 a picul.
Moyune 7,906 " 18 to 25 "
Tienkai 14,791 " 18 to 36 "
Fychow 897 " 15½ to 20 "
Local packed 895 " 16 to 19½ "

31,372½-chts.

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	1898-99.	Settlements.	Stock.
	½-chts.	½-chts.	½-chts.
Pingsuey	42,640		13,479
Moyune	67,086		
Tienkai	68,650		20,415
Fychow	14,711		
Local packed	14,767		1,901
Total	207,763		35,795

	1897-98.	Settlements.	Stock.
	½-chts.	½-chts.	½-chts.
Pingsuey	75,414		31,148
Moyune	78,947		
Tienkai	79,866		9,984
Fychow	21,977		
Local packed	16,298		1,127
Total	270,502		42,259

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	12,465,290	13,868,361
Foochow	11,636,074	11,653,954
Amoy	585,797	660,744
Canton	3,952,153	4,919,452
Total	28,639,314	31,112,511

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	11,643,181	17,492,496
Amoy	10,192,254	11,017,106
Foochow	5,876,852	6,771,106
Total	27,712,287	35,280,678

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	22,676,902	19,462,293

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	21,033,716	23,351,959
Kobe	12,156,816	14,322,202
Total	33,202,532	27,673,161

SILK.

CANTON, 12th November.—Tsattles.—Are in good enquiry for Bombay, and \$600 have been paid for good No. 1. Some Nos. 2 and 3 are said to have been settled for Europe. Re-reels.—There are orders on the market for Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Grant, but owing to the high prices paid for Tsattles for Bombay, and supplies coming in very slowly, dealers are not disposed to sell for forward delivery. About 50 bales of Nos. 1 and 2 have been settled at \$595 to \$575. Filatures.—Remained almost neglected during the fortnight. Prices kept fairly steady but small concessions from \$10 to \$15 are obtainable on the prices quoted in our last report. Short-reels.—Very little has been done for America. A few sales of No. 1 chops 14/16 are reported at \$76½ but III A. 14/16 and 16/20 formed the bulk of the settlements, \$615/57½ having been paid. Waste.—Quiet and rather weak.

SHANGHAI, 19th November.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—According to the latest telegrams to hand the home markets were firm. Gold Killings are quoted in London at 9/10½. Raw Silk.—There has been no special feature of interest to be recorded this week, a small business has taken place, and settlements amount to some 250 bales; holders seem willing to sell at current rates, with the exception of Gold Killings, which are scarce and for which Tls. 46½ is asked. Yellow Silk.—Settlements amount to 200 bales at prices that show no change. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, November 12th to 18th, are: 632 bales White, 307 bales Yellow, and 266 bales Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—A large business has been done in Tsattles X-Reel for New York, and settlements amount to 700 bales, as per quotations below; there are no settlements reported for Lyons. Steam Filatures still continue to be neglected, holders' ideas are some 5 per cent. to 7 per cent. above prices at which business could be done. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 1,560 bales to the Continent, 906 bales to America, and 61 bales to England. Wild Silk.—Some 50 bales of Raws have changed hands. Waste Silk.—A fair daily business doing, among the settlements are:—

	at Tls.
60 Nanking Buttons (whole bale)	53
200 Curles No. 2 and 3 (at Tls. 34 and 24 respectively)	22½
250 Honan No. 2	22½
200 Shantung Long Waste B (whole bale)	21

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/9; Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.

	Tls.	Stlg.
Tsattles.—Blue Eagle	465	10 0
Hangchow Tsattles.—Pagoda Tinghow	422½	10 0½
Taysam.—Green Kahing, Cicada 1	407½	11 1
Skeins.—Lie Skeins	235 a 315	6 10 a 7 7
Yellow Silk.—Meeyang	340 a 350	8 2 a 8 4½
" Meeyang	300 a 335	7 3½ a 8 0½
" Foochung	260 a 300	6 4 a 8 7½
" Szechong	210 a 215	5 2 a 5 3½

Hand Filature.—
May-hen-yn Croissee Ex. 1 & 2 arg. 610 14 4
We San Dong Croissee 1 & 2 " 610 14 4
Flying Horse Croissee Ex. 1 & 2 " 58 13 8
Gold Cock Croissee 1 & 2 " 575 13 6½
Mars Chop Croissee No. 1 520 12 4
Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw 87½ 4 8

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	32,920	30,358
Canton	17,297	13,984
Yokohama	8,777	9,288
Total	58,994	53,630

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	3,109	5,801
Canton	6,329	6,953
Yokohama	7,614	13,003
Total	17,052	25,757

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—An improvement has to be noted and prices have recovered. Quotations for Formosa are \$49.50 to \$49.75. Sales, 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—The market continues weak. Quotations are:—
Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$7.72 to 7.75 per pol.
do. " 2, White... 7.32 to 7.35 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 5.00 to 5.06 "
do. " 2, Brown... 4.85 to 4.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.55 to 7.60 "
do. " 1, White... 7.25 to 7.28 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.75 to 4.80 "
do. " 2, Brown... 4.70 to 4.72 "
Foochow Sugar Candy 11.09 to 11.00 "
Shekloong 9.95 to 10.00 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P & O steamer *Candia*, sailed on the 17th November.—For New York:—1,000 bales hemp. For London:—500 bales hemp and 2 cases cigars from Manila, 170 bales waste silk, 38 cases Chinaware, 5 cases blackwoodware, 103 rolls mats and matting, 2 chests Persian opium, 1 case and 70 bales feathers, 3 cases curios, 4 cases preserves, 3 packages tea, 3 packages tea and preserves, 10 bales canes, 7 cases cigars, 20 cases bristles, 3 cases ginger, 1 case cigar samples, 9,180 bales hemp, 100 packages tea, and 6,667 boxes tea.

Per steamer *Moravia*, sailed on the 17th November. For Trieste:—3,000 cases cassia lignea, 575 bales cassia broken, 25 cases essential oil, 12 bales hides, 81 bales rattans, 245 bales waste silk, 50 cases staraniseed, 12 cases paper, 1,150 boxes tea, 6 cases albumen. For Piraeus:—400 cases cassia lignea. For Odessa:—550 cases cassia lignea. For Fiume:—3 cases curios and 75 boxes tea. For Venice:—300 cases cassia lignea. For Alexandria:—200 cases firecrackers. For Constantinople:—10 boxes tea. For Smyrna:—34 bales galangal. For Batum:—35 cases cassia lignea, 10 bales cassia broken, and 10 bales galangal. For Bombay:—25 boxes preserves and 5 cases wax.

Per steamer *Andalusia*, sailed on the 15th November. For Trieste:—2 cases tea. For London:—8 cases albumin, 9 cases egg yolk, 98 cases Chinaware, 203 rolls matting, 200 bales broken cassia, and 3,584 boxes tea. For London and/or Hamburg:—300 cases camphor. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—28 cases bristles. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Hamburg:—5 cases wood oil, 9 cases sundries, 10 rolls matting, 20 cases palm leaf fans, 22 cases cigars, 25 cases bristles, 41 cases preserves, 45 cases teastick, 50 bales rattan shavings, 53 cases Chinaware, 59 packages canes, 100 bales galangal, 159 bales mats, 235 bales duck feathers, and 2,250 bales broken cassia. For Antwerp:—40 bales canes and 50 cases merchandise. For Antwerp and/or Rotterdam:—1 case cigars, and 216 cases gun copal. For Rotterdam:—1 case tea, and 22 bales canes. For Amsterdam:—66 cases preserves. For Copenhagen:—38 bales canes. For Lisbon:—15 cases private effects. For New York:—3 cases hats and 90 cases essential oil. For Buenos Ayres:—150 cases tea.

Per steamer *Stolberg*, sailed on the 18th November. For Trieste:—50 cases staraniseed and 200 cases tea. For Havre:—2 cases tea, 3 boxes feathers, 12 boxes blackwoodware, 86 cases Chinaware, 100 cases camphor, 149 bales canes, and 2,233 rolls matting. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—3 cases feathers, 9 cases ylang ylang, 10 bales canes, and 25 cases human hair. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—499 cases camphor. For Hamburg:—2 bales rattan shavings, 2 cases curios, 3 cases sundries, 3 cases bristles, 3 cases private effects, 4 bales matting, 5 cases paper, 8 cases Chinaware, 10 cases wood oil, 10 cases teastick, 50 cases staraniseed, 76 cases preserves, and 425 cases tea. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—15 cases bristles. For Rotterdam:—250 bales broken cassia. For Bremen:—20 rolls matting. For New York:—214 cases essential oil.

Per steamer *Caledonien*, sailed on the 19th November. For France:—435 bales raw silk, 25 bales waste silk, 5 cases silks, 100 cases staraniseed, 10 cases preserves, 70 cases cassia, 5 cases feathers, 1 case scordens, 13 packages hair, and 236 packages tea. For Milan:—15 bales raw silk. For London:—50 bales raw silk and 1 case silks.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—Bengal.—Prices have improved during the week under review, closing, however, rather dull at \$795 for New Patna and at \$800 for New Benares.

Malwa.—There has been scarcely anything doing in the interval and rates have receded further, latest figures being as under:—

New \$740 with all'nce of 1 to 1½ catty
Old (2/3 yrs.) \$770 " " 1 to 1½ " "
" (4/6 ") \$800 " " 0 to 1½ " "
" (7/8 ") \$830 " " 0 to 2 " "

Persian.—The market has been dull and prices have declined. Current quotations are \$550 to \$650 for Oily and \$640 to \$715 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna.....	1,919 chests
New Benares.....	498 "
Old Benares.....	23 "
Malwa.....	588 "
Persian.....	612 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 19	785	—	791½	—	740	—
Nov. 20	787½	—	792½	—	740	—
Nov. 21	790	—	795	—	740	—
Nov. 22	792½	—	797½	—	740	—
Nov. 23	795	—	800	—	740	—
Nov. 24	795	—	800	—	740	—
Nov. 25	795	—	810	—	740	—

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—Small lots of the new crop have arrived and were placed at \$18 to \$18½, while the rest was under moderate enquiry. Market closes quiet. Stock, about 2,000 bales.

Bombay 14.50 to 17.50 picul.
Kurrachee to " "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca..... 16.00 to 18.25 picul.
Shanghai and Japanese... 19.00 to 20.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo... 19.00 to 20.00 "
Madras (Best)..... to " "
Sales: 600 bales Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—A steady advance of prices has to be reported. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary..... \$2.40 to 2.45
" Round, good quality..... 2.51 to 2.54
" Long 2.75 to 2.80
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 2.60 to 2.65
" Garden, " No. 1 ... 2.90 to 2.95
" White 3.62 to 3.65
" Fine Cargo 3.80 to 3.85

COALS.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—Small sales of Cardiff ex-godown at \$21.00. Nothing doing in Australian.—Market quiet. Large contracts for 1899 for Japanese have been made; total sales, 170,000 tons at \$8.40 to \$10.25. Quotations are:—

Cardiff \$13.00 to 20.00 exship, nominal
Australian..... 10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Miki Lump } 9.00 to 10.25 nominal
and Small }
Mojji Lump ... 8.00 to 9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double } 12.00 ex Godown
screened..... }
Hongay Lump 8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.. 5.50 to —
Briquettes ... 10.00 to —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—1,100 bales No. 10 at \$67 to \$86, 700 bales No. 12 at \$76.50 to \$82, 50 bales No. 16 at \$56.50, 550 bales No. 20 at \$83 to \$87. Grey Shirtings.—700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.92½, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Chair Chop at \$1.87½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.52½, White Shirtings 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.27½, 200 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.85, 150 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6, 300 pieces EK at \$5.85, 300 pieces DK at \$4.85, 500 pieces S. Q. and \$4.35, 500 pieces D 70 at \$3.62½, 1,000 pieces 300 at \$3.55, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.27½, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.27½, 250 pieces D 70 at \$3.62½, 250 pieces 300 at \$3.55, 250 pieces 300 at \$4.35. T-Cloths.—750 pieces 7 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.30, 375 pieces 7 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.30, 375 pieces Mex. Red Stag at \$2.30, 300 pieces 8 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.72½, 300 pieces 8 lbs VV

at \$2.92½, 30 pieces XX at \$2.97½, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.30, 600 pieces 8 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.72½, 750 pieces 7 lbs Mex. Sil Pheasant at \$1.82½, 375 pieces Mex. Gold Pheasant at \$1.92½, 375 pieces 7 lbs Mex. G. Dragon at \$2.30, 750 pieces 7 lbs Mex. Red Stag at \$2.30, 600 pieces 8 lbs VV at \$2.92½, 300 pieces 8 lbs XX at \$2.97½. Drills.—150 pieces 15 lbs Large Eagle at \$4.87½. 48-Yards.—150 piculs 8 lbs Mex. Gold Dragon at \$5.40.

COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	62.00 to 95.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	99.00 to 106.00
" 22 to 24.....	100.00 to 107.00
" 28 to 32.....	112.00 to 118.00
" 38 to 42.....	121.00 to 128.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.....	1.70 to 1.80
7lbs.....	1.92 to 2.00
8½ lbs.....	2.30 to 3.05
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.30 to 2.50
53 to 60 ".....	2.70 to 3.35
64 to 66 ".....	3.45 to 4.30
Fine.....	4.30 to 7.00
Book-folds.....	3.70 to 5.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.64 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.....	1.52 to 1.72
7lbs. (32 ").....	1.85 to 2.10
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.....	1.62 to 1.82
7lbs. (32 ").....	2.05 to 2.75
8 to 8½ oz. (36 in.).....	2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 14lbs.....	3.65 to 5.05

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs..... 1.50 to 4.85

Brocades—Dyed 3.00 to 5.00

Damasks..... 0.12 to 0.16

Chintzes—Assorted 0.08 to 0.14

Velvets—Black, 22 in..... 0.20 to 0.45

Velveteens—18 in..... 0.17 to 0.18

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90

WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops..... 0.60 to 1.40

German..... 1.15 to 1.50

Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths..... 1.25 to 5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet 6.30 to 8.25

Assorted 6.40 to 8.31

Cainlets—Assorted 12.25 to 31.50

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted } 10.00 to 20.00

Creans—Plain 7.00 to 8.50

Blankets—8 to 12lbs..... 3.50 to 14.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod 4.00 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.15 to —

Swedish Bar 6.00 to —

Small Round Rod 4.35 to —

Hoop ½ to 1½ in..... 5.60 to —

Wire 15/25 9.00 to —

Old Wire Rope 1.50 to 2.50

Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.60 to —

Australian..... 8.50 to —

Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 33.50 to —

Vivian's 14/20 oz. 33.00 to —

Elliot's 14/20 oz. 33.00 to —

Composition Nails 46.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs..... 33.00 to —

Tiles 33.00 to —

Tin to —

Tin-Plates 6.00 to —

Steel ½ to 1 5.75 to —

SUNDRIES

Quicksilver 137.50 to —

Window Glass 4.90 to —

Kerosene Oil 2.16 to —

SHANGHAI, 19th November.—(From Messrs. Noél, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report)

—The past week can only be described as dull, with very little of general interest passing. A certain amount of forward business has been done in Manchester goods, but it is more or less confined to specialties in the way of chops and makes, the demand not descending yet to what may be called the ordinary "market cargo" that most all firms deal in. The reason appears to be the difficulty in obtaining suitable delivery, buyers preferring to take the chance of filling their requirements for the opening of the season

later on. For immediate consumption there is little or no enquiry. The last steamers have left for Newchwang, so nothing more can be done for that market, and the Tientsin men are playing their usual waiting game, though there is not much time left for them now. The troubles in Szechuen are being felt here through the absence of any demand for certain classes of goods that usually find an outlet in that Province, and holders, rather than carry them through the winter, seem inclined to meet the views of buyers for other markets, as the prospects of obtaining higher prices by waiting are very remote. It certainly looks as though prices had reached the top, in fact for American makes at all events there is a decidedly easier feeling. So far as reported White Shirtings have again received considerable attention; the sales published, however, only represent a very small proportion of the business actually done, and it seems to get more and more difficult to obtain any accurate idea of the extent of the transactions. The little snarl in Yarns has been very short lived and holders are anxious to quit their stocks, especially of the lower counts of Indian Spinnings, there being a fair quantity in Native hands that have arrived recently. Much the same may be said of Japanese Yarns, the market for which has been lowered by forced sale, the Native Importers being unable to hold. For Local Spinnings the market is quieter, recent buyers forcing sales in order to meet their engagements.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—The market has ruled firm, and a fair business has been transacted during the week, generally at advanced rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have further advanced to 232 per cent. premium after small cash sales at 228, 229, 230, and 233 per cent. premium. On time shares have changed hands at 238 to 243 for February and at 247 for April. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have found small buyers at \$232½, Cantons at \$147 and \$148, and China Traders at \$62. Cantons are still in request at \$148 and doubtless a higher rate would be paid were any shares obtainable at an advance. The Northern Insurances and Straits continue neglected and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue firm with buyers at \$327½ and Chinas have improved to \$39 with sales and sellers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain unchanged with a small business at \$26½ and \$27, market closing at \$27. Indo-Chinas have changed hands at \$59½ for December 31st and at \$59 cash, closing somewhat quiet at \$59. Douglases have been on offer during the week at \$53½ without leading to business and close at \$53½ sellers. China Manilas have found further buyers at quotations and China Mutuals still continue in demand without bringing out shares.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have improved to \$170, after sales at \$168 and \$169, also at \$170 for 31st December and at \$176 for 31st March. Luzons are steady and wanted in small lots at \$46 to \$47.

MINING.—Panjoms continue quiet with only small sales at quotation. Raubs have advanced to \$38 with fair sales. Balmorals, Olivers, and Jelebus have all changed hands in unimportant lots at quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks remain quiet but steady with small sales at 259 per cent. prem. News has been received from Manila that two out of the three of the late Spanish gunboats have been successfully raised and the third is expected to be floated at any moment. Kowloon Wharves continue firm at \$70, the absence of business being caused by holders refusing to part and buyers being unwilling to jump the rate, at time of closing sales have been effected at \$71. Wanchais steady at \$41 but without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have again changed hands at \$76 for cash and end of the month. Hotels after a small sale at \$62 suddenly jumped to \$68, with fair sales at that and the intermediate rates, market closing quiet at \$69. Humphreys Estates have found buyers at \$8.75, closing with sellers at that rate. West Points continue quiet with sellers at \$20 and no business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons have found buyers at \$13. Star Ferries at 94. Electrics have changed hands at \$11½ and \$11¼, closing quieter with sales and sellers at \$11¼. Tramways and Loes continue in demand and could be placed at higher than quoted rates if shares were forthcoming. Cottons remain quiet and without any local business. Quotations are taken from Shanghai circulars.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	232 ½ prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£4	£1, buyers
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$17
Founders Shares...	£8	\$17
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M. ...	\$10	\$10 25, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$160, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 81
Laou Kung Mow ..	Tls. 100	Tls. 84
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 4.0
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong	\$70	\$50
Dairy Farm Co.	\$0	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$28
Do. New Issue	\$5	\$16½
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$126
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$11.25, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$116, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$69, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$114, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$71, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	260 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$150
China Fire	\$20	\$89, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$62, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$327½, buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$7½, sellers
Union	\$50	\$232½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$129, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$76, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8.5, sal. & buyers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$18, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$10, sellers
Great E. & C. donish	\$5	\$7.75
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.80, sales
Queens Mines Ltd. ...	25c.	70 cts.
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$7, sales
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$5.10, sal. & buyers
Punjom	\$5	\$6.25, buyers
Do. Preference ...	\$1	\$1.50
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$3½, sales & sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$14
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$80, buyers
China Mutual Ord. ...	£10	£9.1s., buyers
Do. Preference ...	£10	£5 10s., buyers
Do. Do. ...	£5	£3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$53½, sellers
H., Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$27, sales
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$59, sellers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$9.50, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. ...	\$2	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do. ...	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$13, sales & buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 21st November.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.—Business has been chiefly done in Cotton Mill shares, at, in some cases, improved prices. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares have been in demand, and a transaction reported at 223 per cent. premium. Shares were also placed for March delivery at 232 per cent. premium. Marine Insurance.—North-China Insurance shares changed hands at Tls. 180. Fire Insurance.—In Hongkong, the price of Hongkongs has improved to \$322.50, while that of Chinas has declined to \$88. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$59, costing Tls. 43.25 laid down here.

Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd. Shares are offering at Tls. 39.50 ex div. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were sold to Hongkong at \$45.50. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. changed hands at Tls. 185, and are offering. A fair business was done in Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tls. 120/122 cash, Tls. 127 for February and Tls. 128 for March. Cash shares are offering at Tls. 122. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares are enquired for at \$69. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 83 and Tls. 91 cash, and are offering at the latter price. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 75 and are wanted at the same rate. International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd.—Shares were sold early in the week at Tls. 86.50/87 for the 30th current, and later on at Tls. 48 cash and Tls. 89 for March. Sales have since been made at Tls. 80 for cash and Tls. 85 for the 31st March. Laou-kung-mow shares were placed at Tls. 84, Tls. 88 and Tls. 86 cash, and Tls. 90.50 to Tls. 91 for the 31st March. Soy Chee shares are offering. Yah Loong shares changed hands at Tls. 55. Shanghai Ice shares were sold at Tls. 90, and China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 45. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are weak, with sellers at Tls. 290. Tientsin Waterworks shares were placed at T. Tls. 100. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 65 cash, Tls. 66/67 for the 30th current, Tls. 65.50 for the 31st December, and Tls. 70/71 for the 31st March. No business is reported in Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares. Hall & Holtz shares were placed at \$36.50 ex the interim dividend of \$2 paid on the 9th instant. Loans.—Shanghai Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures of 1894 were sold at Tls. 101, and Shanghai Waterworks Company's 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 100, plus the accrued interest in both cases. Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$403.75.
Bank of China and Japan, dehd.—£55.0
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—50.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 85.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 450.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & CO.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$71.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$452.50
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 165.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 82.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 122.60.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$132.00.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$88.00.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$59.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$322.50.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$7.25.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$215.
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$130.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$75.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$84.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. (fully pd.)—Tls. 88.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.00.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.00.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$36.35.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.25.

SHIPPING.

China Mutual preference.—Tls. 70.00.
Do. ordinary, £2 paid.—Tls. 23.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53.50.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.50.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 43.25.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 165.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 153.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$167.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$44.75
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 39.50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 65.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 51.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$39.00.

Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$60.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 31.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 210.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60.00.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26.00.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 90.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 130.00
Do. New Issue.—Nominal.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 27.00.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 64.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 300.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$12.25.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 25th November.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.50½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1.98½

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 47½
Credits, 60 days' sight 48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1.46
Bank, on demand 1.46½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1.46
Bank, on demand 1.46½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 72½
Private, 30 days' sight 72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 4½ % pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 2½ % pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1 % pm.

SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.13

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 53.25

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 25th November.—Freights do not shew any general improvement except for steamers with local passenger licence, on monthly hire; the several fixtures mentioned below are at rates higher than was paid at this time last year, and have been taken for the Saigon trade.

Saigon to Hongkong has improved to 13 cents per picul with moderate enquiry for small steamers. Bangkok to Hongkong, 17½ and 22½ cents per picul is offered for small carriers, prompt loading; an offer for 6 consecutive voyages 30 cents inside and 25½ cents per picul outside the bar has been refused.

Newchwang to Canton has closed for the season. Java to Hongkong, rates have dropped to 22½ cents per picul without demand.

Tonnage is in slight request Muji to Hongkong at \$2.25 per ton; to Singapore, \$3.10 per ton.

Sailing tonnage.—A small carrier has been taken to load for Callao at about 25s. per ton of 50 cubic feet. For New York, there is no enquiry.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Java (str.), Bengal (str.), Myrmidon.

For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).

For MARSEILLE.—Oceanien (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—Doric (str.), China (str.), Nippon Maru (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).

For VICTORIA, B. C.—Victoria (str.).

For TACOMA.—Victoria (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Braemar (str.), Eidvold (str.), Reuce (str.), Glenartney (str.), Drumellan, Hansa (str.), W. H. Connor (str.).

For HAMBURG AND LAMBERG.—Savio (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Bamberg (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Arlis (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

- November—
 18, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 19, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 19, Swatow, German str., from Canton.
 19, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
 19, Cheang H. Kian, British str., from S'pore.
 19, Canton, British str., from Canton.
 19, Kensington, British ship, from New York.
 19, McCulloch, Amr. cruiser, from Manila.
 19, Dante, German str., from Java.
 19, Chingping, Chinese str., from Tongku.
 19, Sarpedon, British str., from Foochow.
 20, Astrid, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.
 20, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 20, Kachidate Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 20, Sam. Skolfeld, Amr. ship, from Yokohama.
 20, Wm. H. Conner, Amr. sh., from Shanghai.
 20, Aurora, Siamese bark, from Bangkok.
 20, Fuhun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 20, Tifu, German str., from Saigon.
 20, Cho, British str., from Samarang.
 21, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
 21, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 21, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 21, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 21, Devawongse, British str., from Moji.
 21, Memnon, British str., from Borneo.
 21, Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.
 21, Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Bombay.
 22, Armenia, German str., from Singapore.
 22, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 22, Tordenkjold, Norw. str., from N'chwang.
 22, Chinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
 22, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
 22, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 23, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
 23, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 23, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 23, Sendai Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
 23, Chowtai, British str., from Java.
 23, Kwanon Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 23, Hoihow, French str., from Pakhoi.
 23, Tailee, German str., from Manila.
 24, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 24, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Canton.
 24, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 24, Gefion, German cruiser, from Shanghai.
 24, Cormoran, German cr., from Samsah Bay.
 24, Kaiser, German flagship, from Samsah Bay.
 24, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 24, Dr. Haas Jurg Kear, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
 24, Lothair, Italian bark, from Callao.
 24, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 25, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
 25, Bengel, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Benvorlich, British str., from Moji.
 25, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
 25, Chiyeun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 25, Activ, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 25, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 25, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 25, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.

November— DEPARTURES.

- 19, Caledonien, French str., for Europe, &c.
 19, Pyrrhus, British str., for Liverpool.
 19, Oxus, British str., for Manila.
 19, Picciola, German str., for Nagasaki.
 19, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 19, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 19, Toyo Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 19, Fausang, British str., for Singapore.
 19, Brindisi, British str., for Nagasaki.
 20, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 20, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
 20, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
 20, Deuteros, German str., for Hongay.
 20, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
 20, Chw'nsan, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Canton, British str., for Iloilo.
 20, Swatow, German str., for Iloilo.
 20, Sarpedon, British str., for London.
 21, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 21, Bamberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 21, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
 21, America Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
 21, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 22, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 22, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.
 22, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.

- 22, Nanyo Mrru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 22, Frejr, Danish str., for Tamsui.
 22, Else, German str., for Haiphong.
 22, Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
 22, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 22, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 22, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 22, Tordenkjold, Norw. str., for Canton.
 22, Barfleur, British battleship, for Nagasaki.
 23, Glenavon, British str., for Canton.
 23, Empress of India, British str., for Vancouver.
 23, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 23, B. F. Packard, Amr. ship, for New York.
 23, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 24, Grafton, H.B.M. cruiser, for a cruise.
 24, Benalder, British str., for Saigon.
 24, Armenia, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Kong Beng, British str., for Swatow.
 24, P. C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Marie Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.
 24, Chingtu, British str., for Sydney.
 24, McCulloch, Amr. cruiser, for Yokohama.
 24, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 24, Memnon, British str., for Kudat.
 24, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 24, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
 24, Ebani, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Dugmar, German str., for Amoy.
 25, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 25, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Sendai Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Miike Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 25, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 25, Airlie, British str., for Kobe.
 25, D. Haus Jurg Kear, Norw. str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong from Shanghai, Mr. Tsing Hsu, Mr. H. Brooks, Miss E. H. Patterson, Revs. P. Olpiano Sains, Sachadok Millan, Mr. F. S. Bone, Rev. Bareth, Mr. A. Roberto, Mrs. Loureiro and child, Mrs. W. F. Deas and child, Dr. H. R. Macaulay, Messrs. Murray Stewart and Le Jenne Alb. Jean; from Woosung, Messrs. F. Lemery, Smille Kelinck, Hurlemaun, Chau Lie Luen, Cochrane, Tou Tab Gun, Ngai Lai, and Kobayushi. For Saigon from Shanghai, Messrs. Brandenburg and Lesoux; from Woosung, Mrs. Salabelle, Mrs. Mori. For Singapore from Woosung, Messrs. Shankar Dass, J. Bennard, Hayaschi, Miss Tama and A. Kimonoto, Messrs. Mahagwa, C. Hori, Mr. and Mrs. Swanaya and 2 children. For Colombo from Shanghai, Mr. R. J. Williams. For Port Said, Messrs. Rudolph Helweger and Pereghen. For Marseilles, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Pakotilon, Messrs. Bard, W. W. Dickinson, Morice F. N. Marie, O. D. Marie, Denis, C. T. Smith, and Alf. Perrenaud; from Woosung, Mrs. Harmand, Messrs. Yamaka, Suzaki, Shida, Kakichi, and A. Rohen.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Barretto and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Juan Alas and three children, Capt. Rucker, Capt. Stewart, Comdr. Emilio Nova, Messrs. Manuel Osorio, José Fernandez Frujillo, Victoriana Borja, Juan Mate, Antonio Ybanez, E. B. Laysen, J. H. Grimes, W. C. Duncan, V. Palencia, Felix Concerradas, Emilio Brammer, Horatorio Casanova, Antonio Cluris, Otto Koenit, Cayetano Rodriguez, Bonifacio Villora, Hermogenes Celas, Marcellano Bastos, Aguilani Villari, Harris, Harry Schuyler, John Morton, Thomas Scanlin, and William Young and 107 Chinese.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Lafrentz and Mrs. Van Arend; from Colombo, Frère John; from Singapore, Messrs. G. G. Fisher and Choo Tek Choy, Mr. and Mrs. Hew Ah Koy, Messrs. Wee Choon Chiang, Wee Ting Liew, Thos. Papperell, T. W. Franks, and Springli; from Saigon, Mr. Khin Tu. For Shanghai from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Landaner, Messrs. J. Ginnell, Hedge, Francois, Mr. and Mrs. Southcott, Mrs. Englanga, Mr. Ch. Stammalbach, Mr. and Mrs. Lombard, Mr. and Mrs. Cambon, Mr. and Mrs. Mayer; from Singapore, Mr. G. G. Hayter. For Nagasaki from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Clemonice; from Port Said, Mrs. Kedde Korchoven; from Singapore, Mrs. Slaiter and daughter, and Mrs. Yinvanaga. For Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. Karl E. Hoffner. For Yokohama from Mar-

seilles, Mr. Paul Babin, Miss Guillard, Messrs. Berriek, Ito, and Giraud; from Colombo, Mr. H. G. Hill; from Singapore, Capt. and Mrs. Edg and Mr. Van Gelder.

Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Prof. Dr. Schröter, Capt. A. Wright, Messrs. Siebermann, Petersen, Pernot, and Hardy, Miss Möller and sister, and 116 Chinese.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Nagasaki for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. T. Massad, Major and Mrs. J. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Davis, Messrs. E. O. Levien, M. Baggallay; for Sydney, Messrs. W. H. Skinner and T. J. Thompson; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. A. Macmillan, and Miss Howe.

Per *Kweiyang*, from Tientsin, &c., Messrs. Fenwick and Roberts.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Captain Turner, Lieuts. Hunter and Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Downs, Mr. Raymond and child, and Mr. Abraham.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mr. J. N. Kalf, Mrs. Tsue Kuan Men, Mrs. Orlando Fran; for Bombay, Lieut. W. E. Young; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Shortridge; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer; for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Stewart Jones. From Kobe for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Munro, Messrs. Chang Ching U, Wong Man Loong, Chung Hang, Yok Sang, Angain, and Ah Foh; for Singapore, Miss Waraki.

DEPARTED

Per *Caledonien*, from Hongkong for Marseilles, Colonel E. Blanco, Captain E. Nevo, Messrs. C. Obeda, M. Cabuada, C. Cester, A. Garrido, J. Ruiz, F. Sainz, J. Brea, G. Rubio, V. Garrido, A. Mallari, M. Bustos, Mr. and Mrs. J. Alas and 3 children, Messrs. V. Cablesado, A. Mustieles, Mrs. T. Medel, Mrs. A. Myates and 3 children, Messrs. A. Claries, L. Delignon, Buffen, E. Ruiz, P. Nolasco, C. Sesana, F. Esteban, P. Parro, Theband, J. Tournay, J. V. Inglis, M. Ossorio, and H. R. Macaulay; for Colombo, Dr. H. Poceares and Mr. A. Reichling; for Singapore, Miss Bainbridge, Miss Curtes, Mr. and Mrs. Bainbridge, Messrs. E. A. B. Galhardo, J. H. C. Crespo, E. A. Marques, Major and Mrs. Younghusband, Messrs. Mackeller, P. Basagciti, F. S. Bone, A. dos Santos, F. Bedford; for Saigon, Mr. P. Cornelson.

Per *Sungkiang*, for Manila, Mrs. Gold, Mr. and Mrs. Wookey and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Gonsales and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. Harris, Mr., Mrs. and Master Castillo, Lieuts. Hartels, Goetting, and Weisspfenning, Messrs. Samuels, J. McCafferly, E. Rebstock, F. Cochrane, Carneiro, M. Sahd, J. Doman, P. Diaz, D. Coates, H. Weidman, and Mier7enheim.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Mrs. McFarlane and 2 children, Mrs. Costa, Miss Luz, and Mr. E. E. Clarke; for Nagasaki, Mr. J. J. Fisher; for Kobe, J. D. H. Donnenberg; for Yokohama, Mr. E. Zillio.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Messrs. E. Brammar, O. R. Grow, Webb, J. Ormseeches, P. Mendezona, Mrs. Beatty and 2 children, Messrs. O. Zabinky, Isaacs, Sprungli, Astheimer, Mr. and Mrs. Astheimer, Mr. L. Gando, Dr. Lueban, Messrs. Millan, Dredge, McClure, Samson, Bisch, Mrs. and Miss Brausrenther, Mrs. E. D. Bolton, Miss A. Bolton, Messrs. Woods, Sheward, H. Williams, F. Haslop, Mr. and Mrs. Evarista Reina, Messrs. H. G. Hill, C. E. Barron, T. Law, A. Tisler, and Wadder.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Levi and children, Mr. and Mrs. Low, Master Joseph, Messrs. F. Poate, Cheong, Lieuts. Brice and O. W. G. Hunter, Mrs. Jackson and child; for Nagasaki, Capt. K. Rucker, J. S. Stewart; for Yokohama, Miss Perasse, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Perasse, Capt. W. P. Biddle and W. C. Duncan; for Vancouver, Mr. C. A. Harris, Col. J. Weir, Mrs. Kum Ping, Misses Chow Kum and Sing Choy; for Seattle, Miss K. L. E. Myers; for London, Capt. Kingsmill, Lieut. W. Forbes.

Per *Chingtu*, for Sydney, Miss Davis, Mr. F. Schmeltscheck, Capt. Wright; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Byworth, and Mr. A. Hardy.

Per *Chelydra*, for Calcutta, Mrs. Pakenham, Messrs. J. N. Kalf and C. N. Finnis; for Singapore, Mr. J. McNab.

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